

EGYPT ON THE EDGE

CAIRO - Egyptian state media reported Friday that former President Mohammed Morsi had been formally charged with espionage and ordered detained for 15 days, a move that seemed certain to further anger his supporters, as both pro- and anti-Morsi crowds turned out in vast demonstrations across Egypt.

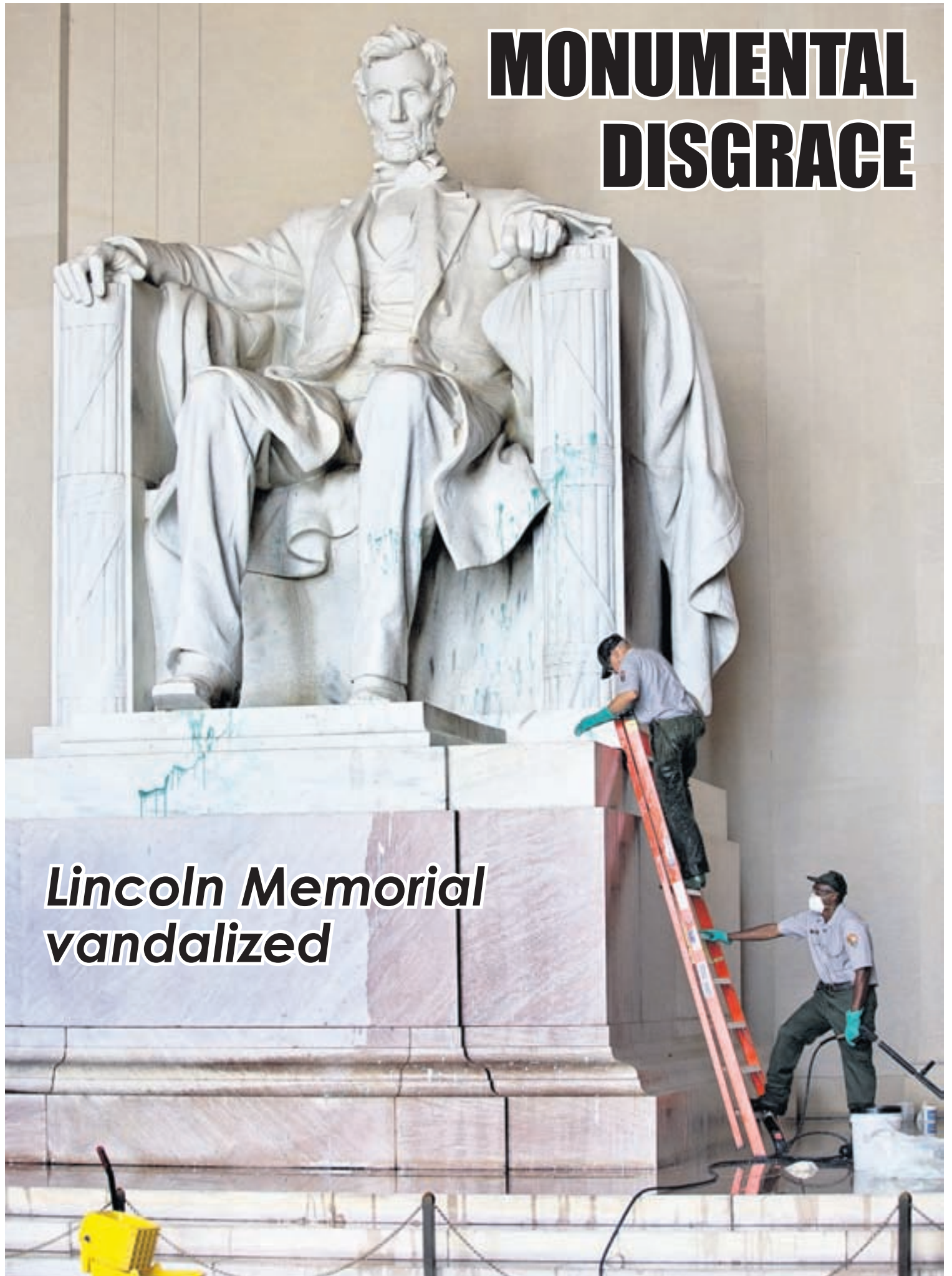


Opponents of Egypt's ousted President Mohammed Morsi during a protest in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, July 26, 2013. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

Morsi's supporters and opponents began flooding into the streets in mass dueling protests early Friday, as the military set up checkpoints throughout the city. In Tahrir Square here in Cairo, tens of thousands of flag-waving people cheered the military takeover, as helicopters flew low over the crowd and families posed for photographs with soldiers next to their armored vehicles. Many in the crowd held up posters of Egypt's defense minister, Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who ousted Morsi on July 3 and had called Wednesday for demonstrations that he said would give him a "mandate" to fight terrorism.

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MONUMENTAL DISGRACE



Lincoln Memorial vandalized

National Park Service workers clean the statue of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, Friday, July 26, 2013, after someone splattered green paint on the statue of the 16th president and the floor area. Police say the apparent vandalism was discovered early Friday morning with no words, letters or symbols were visible in the paint.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)
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Pope shows off spiritual side presiding over solemn rite

**BRADLEY
NICOLE WINFIELD**
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Pope Francis presided over one of the most solemn rites of the Catholic Church on Friday, a procession re-enacting Christ's crucifixion in the improbable location of Rio's hedonistic Copacabana beach, as he headed into the home stretch of his first international trip for World Youth Day.

The evening procession highlighted Francis' deep spiritual side a day after he showed off his rebel streak by calling on young Catholics to shake things up in their parishes and make a "mess" by going out to the streets to spread their faith. Francis took a long drive in his open car along Rio's oceanfront to reach the stage, kissing babies brought to him and waving to the shrieking crowds held behind fences and soldiers in camouflage. He then watched on in prayer as young people began the procession, which recounts the final hours of Christ's life as he is condemned to death and crucified. The procession is one of the mainstay events of World Youth Day, designed to remind young Catholics about the root of their faith that Christ died to forgive their sins. Francis drove home that message at the start of Friday, hearing confessions of five young pilgrims in a Rio park. "It was just five minutes, it followed the regular ritual of confession, but then Francis stayed and talked with us," said one of the five, Estefani Lescano, 21, a student from La Guaira, Venezuela. "It was all very personal. He told us that young people have the responsibility of keeping the church alive and spreading the word of Christ."

Later, he met privately with a few juvenile detainees, a priority of his ever since his days as archbishop of Buenos Aires and an expression of his belief that the church must reach out to the most marginalized and forgotten of society.

Even now as pope, he calls a group of youths in a Bue-

nos Aires detention center every two weeks just to keep in touch, and one of his most memorable gestures as pope was his Holy Thursday Mass at a juvenile detention center in Rome where he washed the feet of young offenders.

On Friday, the young offenders presented Francis with a large homemade rosary made out of Styrofoam balls, each one bearing the names of the eight street children gunned

down by police death squads in 1993 as they slept outside Rio's Candelaria church — a notorious massacre that underscored the unequal treatment that outcasts often receive in Brazil. On the cross were the words "Candelaria Never Again" in Portuguese. Francis also had lunch with a dozen World Youth Day volunteers from around the globe, bringing them to tears when he asked them a simple rhe-

torical question on which to reflect: Why were they here having lunch with the pope while others were hungry in the slums? The sun finally came out on Friday, ending four days of rain that soaked pilgrims and forced the relocation of the festival's culminating Mass on Sunday. Instead, the Mass and the Saturday night vigil that precedes it will take place at Copacabana beach rather than the mud pit covering the

original site in Guaratiba, some 50 kilometers (30 miles) west of central Rio.

The improved weather also provided a brighter backdrop for his words to young and old during his noon prayer, in which he praised the elderly for passing on wisdom and religious heritage. Francis has made a point of not just focusing on the next generation of Catholics during World Youth Day, but on the older generation as well. □



Pope Francis waves in his way to the Stations of the Cross in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, July 26, 2013. Also known as the Way of the Cross, Via Crucis and Via Dolorosa, the Stations of the Cross are built around reflections on Jesus' last steps leading up to his crucifixion and death.
(AP Photo/Jorge Saenz)

Ex-IMF chief Strauss-Kahn to be tried in France

PARIS (AP) — Former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn will have to defend himself in a French court on charges of aggravated pimping despite recommendations by prosecutors that the charges be dropped.

Judges investigating the case in the northern city of Lille decided on Friday to go ahead with charges of aggravated pimping in a group.

The case revolves around an alleged hotel prostitution ring and hinges on whether Strauss-Kahn knew he was partying with prostitutes and whose money

was used to pay them. His lawyers have said Strauss-Kahn had attended "libertine" gatherings but did not know that some women there were paid.

A total of 14 people, including Strauss-Kahn, are to be tried on aggravated pimping in a group. A more serious charge of organized pimping was dropped.

In France, it is not against the law to pay for sex, but is against the law to solicit or to run a prostitution business.

Prostitutes questioned in the case said they had sex with Strauss-Kahn during 2010 and 2011 at a luxury hotel in Paris, at a restau-

rant in the French capital and also in Washington, where he lived while working for the Washington-based IMF, judicial officials have said.

No trial date was set.

Prosecutors in June had asked for the case against Strauss-Kahn to be dropped on the grounds of lack of evidence, though they agreed charges against the others should be maintained.

The case in Lille put the 64-year-old Strauss-Kahn back in the spotlight after his arrest in New York in May 2011 following allegations by a Manhattan hotel maid that he had sexually

assaulted her.

He resigned as IMF chief before those charges were dropped. The New York case also cut short any political aspirations at home for the former French economy minister. He had been widely seen as a presidential contender.

Frederique Baulieu, one of Strauss-Kahn's lawyers, said her client committed no infraction in the Lille case.

"He did not commit the offense of prostitution. He neither aided nor assisted prostitution," Baulieu said by telephone. She claimed the judges based their decision on "morals" not on law. □

US to transfer 2 Gitmo detainees to ally Algeria

NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is planning to transfer two Guantanamo Bay detainees to Algeria, the first movement of terrorist suspects from the prison since the president announced a renewed push to close the contentious military-run facility in Cuba.

The White House said Friday it was starting the transfers as part of President Barack Obama's goal to close the prison, a campaign promise that has eluded him since he took office. The move signaled a new push to reduce the population of 166 detainees at the prison, where dozens are on a hunger strike to draw attention to their indefinite detention.

The White House said the two detainees will not be identified until after the transfer, which can't come until after a 30-day waiting period.

An administration official said the detainees were chosen because Algeria is a close U.S. ally that has successfully managed detainees in the past — none of the previous 12 to be released have returned to terrorist activities, unlike some returned to other countries. The official, speaking on a condition of anonymity without authorization to publicly discuss the process, said it has been in the works since several months before Obama announced his intention this spring to push anew for closure.

Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel signed off on the transfer based on the recommendation of an interagency team after a months-long review. As part of the certification process that has been required by Congress for more than two years, Guantanamo detainees can be transferred if the defense secretary certifies that the individual is not at risk to engage in terrorist activities. □

Holder: No death penalty for Snowden if convicted

PETE YOST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Striving to get Edward Snowden back to America, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder has assured the Russian government the U.S. has no plans to seek the death penalty for the former National Security Agency systems analyst.

In a letter dated Tuesday, the attorney general said the criminal charges Snowden now faces in this country do not carry the death penalty and the U.S. will not seek his execution even if he is charged with additional serious crimes.

Holder's letter followed news reports that Snowden, who leaked details of top secret U.S. surveillance programs, has filed papers seeking temporary asylum in Russia on grounds that if he were returned to the United States he would be tortured and would face the death penalty.

Snowden has been charged with three offenses in the U.S., including espionage, and could face up to 30 years in prison if convicted.

The attorney general's letter was sent to Alexander Vladimirovich Konovalov, the Russian minister of justice.

Holder's letter is part of a campaign by the U.S. government to get Snowden back. When Snowden ar-

rived at Moscow's international airport a month ago, he was believed to be planning simply to transfer to a flight to Cuba and then to Venezuela to seek asylum.

But the U.S. canceled his passport, stranding him. Besides applying for temporary asylum in Russia, he has said he would like to visit the countries that offered him permanent asy-

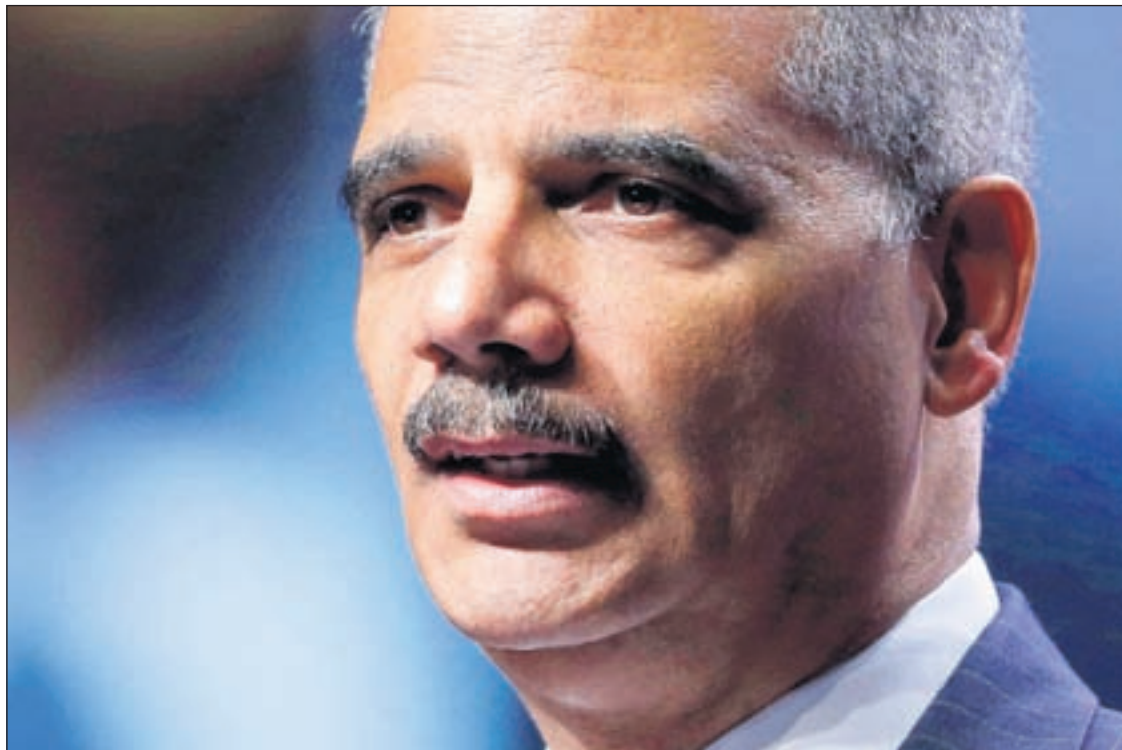
lums — Venezuela, Bolivia and Nicaragua. Some Russian politicians, including parliament speaker Sergei Naryshkin, have said Snowden should be granted asylum to protect him from the death penalty. If Snowden were to go to a country that opposes the death penalty, providing assurances that the U.S. won't seek it could remove at least one obstacle to his return to America.

"I can report that the United States is prepared to provide to the Russian government the following assurances regarding the

Snowden should he return to the United States." In addition, "Mr. Snowden will not be tortured. Torture is unlawful in the United States."

Bruce Fein, a lawyer representing Edward Snowden's father, criticized Holder.

"Today the attorney general stated — apparently thinking he was being conciliatory — that if Edward Snowden were returned



Attorney General Eric Holder speaks in Philadelphia. Holder has assured Russia that the US won't seek the death penalty for Edward Snowden upon his return to the US.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

lum — Venezuela, Bolivia and Nicaragua.

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ed asylum to protect him from the death penalty. If Snowden were to go to a country that opposes the death penalty, providing assurances that the U.S. won't seek it could remove at least one obstacle to his return to America.

"I can report that the United States is prepared to provide to the Russian government the following assurances regarding the

Manning case now in the hands of US judge

DAVID DISHNEAU

PAULINE JELINEK

Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Maryland (AP) — U.S. soldier Bradley Manning's fate was in the hands of a military judge Friday after nearly two months of conflicting portrayals: a traitor who gave the anti-secrecy site WikiLeaks thousands of classified secrets for worldwide attention and a young, naive intelligence officer who wanted people to know about the atrocities of war. The judge said she will start deliberating Friday night on the 21 charges Manning faces, but she did not say when she would rule.

The most serious charge is aiding the enemy, which carries a potential life sentence in prison.

During closing arguments, defense attorney David Coombs said Manning was negligent in releasing classified material, but he did not know al-Qaida would see it and did not have "evil intent" — a key point prosecutors must prove to convict Manning of aiding the enemy.

Prosecutors contended Manning, 25, knew the material would be seen around the world, even by Osama bin Laden, when he started the leaks in late 2009. Manning said the

leaks didn't start until February of the following year. "Worldwide distribution, that was his goal," said the military's lead prosecutor, Maj. Ashden Fein. "He knew he was giving it to the enemy, specifically al-Qaida."

After Coombs finished his final argument, there was some applause from Manning supporters, who were quickly hushed by the judge.

Meanwhile, one of Manning's most visible supporters was banned from the trial after the judge said someone posted threats online. Clark Stoeckley confirmed he was the one

kicked out.

A tweet Thursday night from an account Stoeckley used said: "I don't know how they sleep at night but I do know where." It was removed Friday, and Stoeckley told The Associated Press on Twitter he couldn't comment.

Manning also faces federal espionage, theft and computer fraud charges. He has acknowledged giving WikiLeaks some 700,000 battlefield reports, diplomatic cables and videos, but he says he didn't believe the information would harm troops in Afghanistan and Iraq or threaten national security. □

Suspect in Cleveland abduction case pleads guilty

EMMA G. FITZSIMMONS
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The Cleveland man accused of holding three women captive in his home for a decade entered a guilty plea Friday in order to avoid the death penalty.

The man, Ariel Castro, 53, pleaded guilty to 937 counts, including rape and kidnapping, in a plea agreement with prosecutors. Under the deal, he would spend life in prison without parole and receive 1,000 additional years.

"I will plead guilty because of the plea deal," Castro said in court.

In a hearing Friday, Judge Michael J. Russo of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court reviewed the charges and asked

Castro whether he understood.

The hearing, which lasted over an hour, was the first time the public had heard from Castro at length since he was arrested in May.

Castro, who wore an orange jumpsuit and glasses and had a thick beard, often went beyond the judge's questions, bringing up his "sexual problems" and saying that he missed his daughter.

As the judge listed each count in the long indictment and Castro pleaded guilty to each charge, Castro stopped to say, "I would like to state that I miss my daughter very much."

Castro has a 6-year-old daughter with Amanda Berry, one of the kidnapping victims. Earlier this



Ariel Castro looks over at the prosecutors table during court proceedings Friday, July 26, 2013, in Cleveland. Castro, who imprisoned three women in his home, subjecting them to a decade of rapes and beatings, pleaded guilty Friday to 937 counts in a deal to avoid the death penalty. In exchange, prosecutors recommended Castro be sentenced to life without parole plus 1,000 years.

(AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

month, he asked the judge for permission to see the girl, but the judge denied

his request.

During the hearing, Castro said that when he was arrested, he agreed to work with the authorities and

"tell them everything."

He also told the judge that he had been sexually abused as a child.

At one point, he said, "My addiction to pornography and my sexual problem has really taken a toll on my mind."

The judge is expected to accept the plea deal at a sentencing hearing on Aug. 1. Castro and his lawyers will have the opportunity to speak on his behalf at the hearing. As part of the agreement, Castro would forfeit his home and his savings. Prosecutors said Castro's home would be demolished soon.

The case captured national attention in May when the women were rescued, along with Berry's daughter, after neighbors heard cries for help from the home. □

Lincoln Memorial vandalized

BRETT ZONGKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Lincoln Memorial was temporarily closed Friday after someone splattered green paint on the statue of the 16th president in Washington D.C.

The National Park Service said it would reopen by evening.

The apparent vandalism was discovered around 1:30 a.m. Friday on the statue, the pedestal and the floor, U.S. Park Police said. No words, letters or symbols were visible in the paint.

The marble Lincoln statue had green paint on its shin, coattail, chair and base, as well as paint on the floor of the memorial building.

Capt. Steven Booker said the paint spill "appears intentional based off of the splatter." Police were reviewing security camera footage to try to identify possible suspects, he said. No suspects had been identified by Friday afternoon. Police officials said they would not release the security footage because the investigation is ongoing.

The memorial chamber was closed all day to al-

low a National Park Service crew to finish cleaning up the paint. Workers spent hours using pressurized hoses and a chemical paint remover to try to wash away the paint.

National Park Service spokeswoman Carol Johnson said the memorial will be returned to the condition it was in before the vandalism. She said the work was going well by late Friday.

"It is not permanent damage," she said. "Our historic preservation crew knows exactly what they need to do."

The memorial, one of the most popular sites on the National Mall, was dedicated in 1922 to President Abraham Lincoln. The building was designed by Henry Bacon, and Daniel French sculpted the statue of Lincoln. It sits at the opposite end of the National Mall from the Capitol, facing the monument to George Washington.

The memorial has served as a symbol of equality and reunification after the Civil War. It was the site of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington, along with other historic moments. □

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San Diego mayor to get therapy amid scandal

ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The mayor of San Diego announced Friday he will undergo therapy after several women accused him of sexual harassment, apologizing for his conduct but resisting widespread calls for his resignation, including from his own Democratic Party.

Bob Filner, a former congressman and the U.S. border city's first Democratic mayor in 20 years, apologized to voters, his staff and the women he allegedly harassed, including some who accused him of kissing, groping and placing them in headlocks.

"Words alone are not enough," Filner said at a nationally televised news conference. "I am responsible for my conduct and I must take responsibility for my conduct so that such conduct does not ever happen again."

It was the second time this month that a sex scandal has ensnared a high-profile U.S. politician. In New York, mayoral candidate Anthony Weiner admitted this week that he continued exchanging sexually explicit messages with at least three women even after similar behavior forced his resignation from Congress in 2011. Weiner, also a Democrat, has shrugged off calls to drop out of the mayoral race.

Filner's problems began two weeks ago when a former councilwoman and onetime supporter of the mayor called on him to step down, saying she had credible evidence that he harassed women.

On Monday, his communications director from January to June, Irene McCormack Jackson, filed a law-

suit claiming that he asked her to work without panties, demanded kisses, told her he wanted to see her naked and dragged her in a headlock while whispering in her ear.

Up to seven women have accused him of sexual harassment, including a retired Navy rear admiral and a dean at San Diego State University.

The chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee called on Filner to resign as did leaders of the San Diego Democratic party, plunging the nation's eighth-largest city, which sits across from Tijuana, Mexico, into political turmoil.

Filner, who is 70 and divorced, instead said he will receive twice-a-day briefings about city operations while taking part in what he described as "intensive therapy" beginning Aug. 5. He said more counseling would follow.

Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman called Filner's alleged behavior "reprehensible and indefensible" and urged him to step down.

Several people who have called on Filner to resign said his plan for therapy was inadequate.

"Two weeks of therapy may help Bob Filner with his personal problems, but it does not help to address the needs of San Diego," said Laura Fink, a political consultant who alleges that Filner patted her buttocks at a 2005 fundraiser when she was deputy campaign manager for the then-congressman.

Kevin Faulconer, a Republican city councilman, said Filner's "bad behavior" will not end after two weeks of therapy. □



San Diego Mayor Bob Filner looks down at the podium as he speaks during a news conference at city hall, while a group of city workers look on, Friday, July 26, 2013, in San Diego. Filner announced his plan for a two-week stay beginning Aug. 5, in a behavioral clinic after a series of women claimed he kissed, groped and placed them in headlocks.

(AP Photo/Gregory Bull)



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US FDA proposes rules for safer imported foods

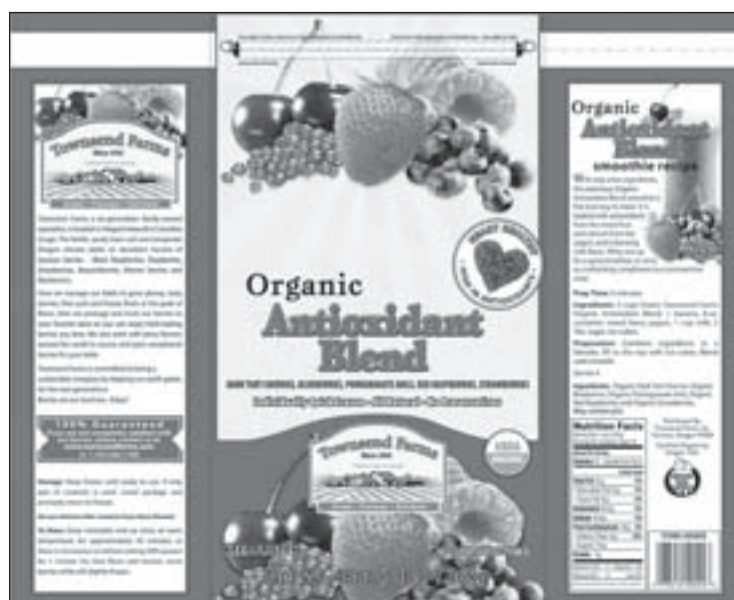
MARY JALONICK
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration proposed new steps Friday to ensure that fresh produce, cheeses and other foods imported into the United States are safe. The proposed rules, required by a sweeping food safety law passed by Congress 2 1/2 years ago, are meant to establish better checks on what long has been a scattershot effort to guard against unsafe food imported from more than 150 countries. Only around 2 percent of that food is inspected by the government at ports and borders. About 15 percent of the food Americans eat is imported, including about 50 percent of fruits and 20 percent of vegetables. An estimated 3,000 people die from food-related illnesses every year. FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg said the new rules could help prevent outbreaks like 153 recent Hepatitis A illnesses that were linked to a frozen berry mix sold at Costco, a leading discount chain.

That outbreak, which hit nine states, was linked to frozen pomegranate seeds from Turkey. Hamburg said Friday that the berry outbreak "illustrated the growing complexity of the food supply." FDA investigators had to look at berries from several different countries in the mix before they zeroed in on the Turkish seeds as the probable source of the illnesses. The proposed guidelines would require U.S. food importers to verify that the foreign companies they are importing from are achieving the same levels of food safety required in this country. The rules, which would also improve audits of food facilities abroad, could cost the food industry up to \$472 million annually. Since Congress passed the food safety law in December 2010 and President Barack Obama signed it in early 2011, there have been several outbreaks caused by imported foods, including an occurrence of listeria in imported Italian cheese last year that killed four people. Other illnesses

were linked to tainted papayas, mangoes and nuts and spices used as ingredients. Michael Taylor, FDA deputy commissioner for foods, says the rules show a major

idea is to make businesses more responsible for the food they are selling or importing by proving that they are using good food safety practices. They might do that by documenting ba-

companies are trying to prevent food safety problems but generally waits and responds to outbreaks after they happen. Requiring better prevention was the intent when Congress passed the bill. But since then, the law has run into several obstacles, including FDA delays in issuing the rules, a lack of congressional funding and increasing opposition from some rural members of Congress who represent worried farmers. A farm bill passed in the House this month included an amendment sponsored by Rep. Dan Benishek, a Republican, that would delay all of the food safety rules. Farmers and importers have expressed concern that the rules will require too much time, cost and paperwork. FDA regulators say the new rules are necessary as the food system becomes more complex and more global. Food often stops in several locations and passes through many different hands in a matter of days before it hits grocery shelves. □



This handout image shows the label of Townsend Farms of Fairview, Ore., Organic Antioxidant Blend, packaged under the Townsend Farms label. The FDA proposed new steps Friday to ensure that fresh produce, cheeses and other foods imported into the United States are safe.

(AP/FDA)

shift in thinking in the way the government works to keep food safe. Like rules for domestic farmers and food companies released earlier this year, the

sic information about their suppliers' cleanliness, testing foods or acquiring food safety audits. Currently, the government does little to ensure that

Canadian beef farmers fight US meat label rules

WASHINGTON/CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — An organization that represents Canadian beef farmers said Friday it is seeking an injunction while a court in the U.S. hears its case against country of origin meat labeling. The Canadian Cattlemen's Association said it is part of a coalition that has asked the U.S. District Court in Washington to delay the policy to be implemented in November. The policy would require labels on meat products sold in the United States to con-

tain detailed information about where the products come from. The lawsuit claims that the rule would violate the U.S. Agriculture Marketing Act and is arbitrary. The coalition that filed the injunction argues the policy would cause irreparable harm to the U.S. meat and livestock industry by increasing costs and making it more difficult for U.S. companies to buy Canadian products. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit also include the American Association of Meat Processors,

American Meat Institute, Canadian Pork Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Pork Producers Council, North American Meat Association and Southwest Meat Association. In 2009, the U.S. issued the requirement that retail outlets put country of origin labels on meat and other products in an effort to give U.S. consumers more information about their food. A World Trade Organization ruling on meat labeling found the U.S. system discriminates against foreign

livestock. The U.S. announced earlier this year that it wants to require even more detail on the origins of beef, pork and chicken sold in grocery stores. Labels would include such information as "born, raised and slaughtered in the United States." Cuts of meat from other countries could carry labels such as "born in Canada, raised and slaughtered in the United States." The Canadian Pork Council estimates the existing labeling rule has already cost

Canada about \$97 million (CA\$1 billion) annually in beef and pork exports. Last month, the Canadian government released a list of potential U.S. agricultural products to which Canada could apply retaliatory tariffs. They include cattle, pigs, beef, pork, some fruits and vegetables and chocolate. Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz said that while Canadians could see higher prices as a result, the U.S. will lose jobs and significant revenue from the tariffs. □



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 Time Played: 20 min



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 Lisa Roberts
 Time Played: 5 min



Game King gave away \$2,400
 Time Played: 10 min

Triple 10 Ten Times gave away \$4,000
 Time Played: 10 min

Double 10 Ten Times gave away \$6,000
 Time Played: 10 min

Game King gave away \$2,400
 Time Played: 10 min





Signs finally point to end of Europe recession

DAVID McHUGH
Associated Press
FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — After a year and a half of recession, Europe's battered economy could finally be showing signs of life. It's not the kind of recovery that calls for a big celebration. Any upswing will be a slow and arduous climb — up a slope strewn with high

unemployment and scarce credit for businesses. But signs of improvement are there. On Thursday, a German index of business confidence rose for the third month in a row. Meanwhile, surveys of purchasing managers in the euro area indicate manufacturing activity edged back into growth territory in July for the first time in 18 months. And there are other indications that Europe has bottomed out. Germany's central bank, the Bundesbank, says the country's economy — Eu-

rope's biggest — expanded "strongly" in the April-June period. Automaker Daimler AG says it expects to see the continent's sagging car market start to recover toward the end of the year. In the No. 2 euro economy, France's Insee index of consumer confidence ticked up in July to 82 from 79 the month

ing 0.2 percent growth for the second quarter and 0.3 percent for the current, third, quarter. The eurozone is the second-largest economy after the United States, with 9.5 trillion euros (\$12.5 trillion) in economic output last year. It's a major trading partner with the U.S., close neighbor Britain and with Asia.

ter consumer mood that can outweigh negative headlines and fears about the future, says Fritz Kuckartz, who runs his family's 60-year-old Renault dealership in Aachen. "Purchase decisions don't just depend on the unemployment number," Kuckartz said. "It depends on the person's situation and the entire political and news media environment. The key factors in our experience are disposable income and the general outlook for the future." Manufacturers have cut their prices "and the customers still can't decide." Only a "better fundamental mood" can outweigh negative headlines and worries, he said. The signs of stabilization come a year after European Central Bank head Mario Draghi did much to halt the financial market crisis in Europe with a forceful statement on July 26, 2012 at a London investor conference that the bank would "do whatever it takes" to save the euro and that "believe me, it will be enough."

The bank followed with a plan to purchase unlimited amounts of government bonds issued by indebted governments. The aim was to drive down the borrowing costs that threatened Spain and Italy with financial collapse. No bonds have been bought. But the mere prospect of central bank purchases sent interest costs lower. Yields on Spanish 10-year bonds have fallen to 4.65 percent from over 7 percent ahead of Draghi's speech. That cut financing costs for indebted countries such as Spain and Italy and reduced the threat they would need a bailout Europe couldn't afford. □



Cyprus' President Nicos Anastasiades speaks to the media during a press conference at the presidential palace in capital Nicosia, Cyprus, Friday, July 26, 2013. Cyprus' president says he's "cautiously optimistic" international creditors will certify that the country is living up to the terms of its multibillion euro bailout deal. Officials from the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund are currently on the tail end of their first assessment after Cyprus agreed in March on a euro 23 billion (\$30.3 billion) financial rescue package.

(AP Photo/Petros Karadjias)

before. News like this has raised hopes that economic growth figures could be flat or slightly positive when they come out for the April-June period on Aug. 14. That would end a string of six straight quarters of contraction in the 17 European Union countries that use the euro currency. "Contrary to widespread market perceptions, the eurozone recession ended when the snow melted last Easter," Berenberg Bank chief economist Holger Schmieding wrote in a note Thursday. He is forecast-

ing 0.2 percent growth for the second quarter and 0.3 percent for the current, third, quarter. The eurozone is the second-largest economy after the United States, with 9.5 trillion euros (\$12.5 trillion) in economic output last year. It's a major trading partner with the U.S., close neighbor Britain and with Asia.

Losses in Europe have been a drag on otherwise stellar earnings for U.S. carmakers. Ford Motor Co. lost \$348 million there in the second quarter and General Motors lost 110 million euros — high but still smaller than earlier quarters. An improvement can't come fast enough for the auto industry. Even low unemployment of only 5.3 percent of hasn't moved Germans to buy new cars. Sales fell 8.1 percent over the first six months of the year. What's needed is a bet-

Syria troops advancing in city of Homs

ALBERT AJI
Associated Press
DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syrian government troops gained ground in clashes Friday in two rebel-held neighborhoods in the central city of Homs, edging closer to a historic mosque and closing in on opposition fighters in the area, state television and activists said. The advance came amid a wide offensive by President Bashar Assad's forces and as Syria's Western-backed opposition group met for the first time with the U.N. Security Council. With about 1 million residents, Homs lies along a main artery linking the capital, Damascus, with regime strongholds on the Mediterranean coast to the west. Homs has played a key role in the country's civil war, now in its third year, and the struggle for control of the city also has underscored the conflict's increasingly sectarian undertones.

Activists, who consider Homs "the capital of the revolution," say the regime wants to capture the entire city to include it in a future Alawite state — stretching from Homs to the coast — where Assad could possibly make his last stand. Assad is a member of the Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam, while most of the rebels fighting to topple his regime are Sunnis. In recent weeks, Assad's troops have captured several nearby rebel-held areas, including the towns of Qusair and Talkalkh near the border with Lebanon. State TV said Friday that troops advanced in Homs' northern neighborhoods of Khaldiye and Jouret el-Shayah. □



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Libya activist killed in drive by shooting

ESAM MOHAMED
Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — A leading Libyan lawyer and activist who was a vocal critic of the country's Islamists was killed Friday in a drive-by shooting in the city of Benghazi, a security official said.

Abdul-Salam al-Musmari was driving home after Friday prayers when a gray sedan intercepted his car and a gunman emerged, shooting him at close range, Benghazi security official Mohammed al-Hegazi said.

Al-Hegazi said an investigation into the motives behind the attack and who committed the killing is underway. Al-Musmari was a leading lawyer who headed the Feb. 17 Coalition, a group credited with launching the 2011 protests against the country's long-time dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Al-Musmari publicly criticized the country's Muslim Brotherhood group, which wields significant political and financial clout in post-Gadhafi politics.

He also campaigned recently against a sweeping law that bans anyone who served as a senior official under Gadhafi from working in government. The law was widely supported by many of Libya's militias who pushed for its passage, besieging government buildings in a show of force. □

Spain train crash investigation turns to driver

CIARAN
YESICA FISCH
Associated Press

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, Spain (AP) — Investigations into Spain's deadliest

GILES

open until police can question the injured driver and analyze the data on the train's just-recovered "black box."

Police announced they

nies began Friday night, authorities working from a sports arena-turned-morgue announced they had positively identified 75 of the 78 people killed in

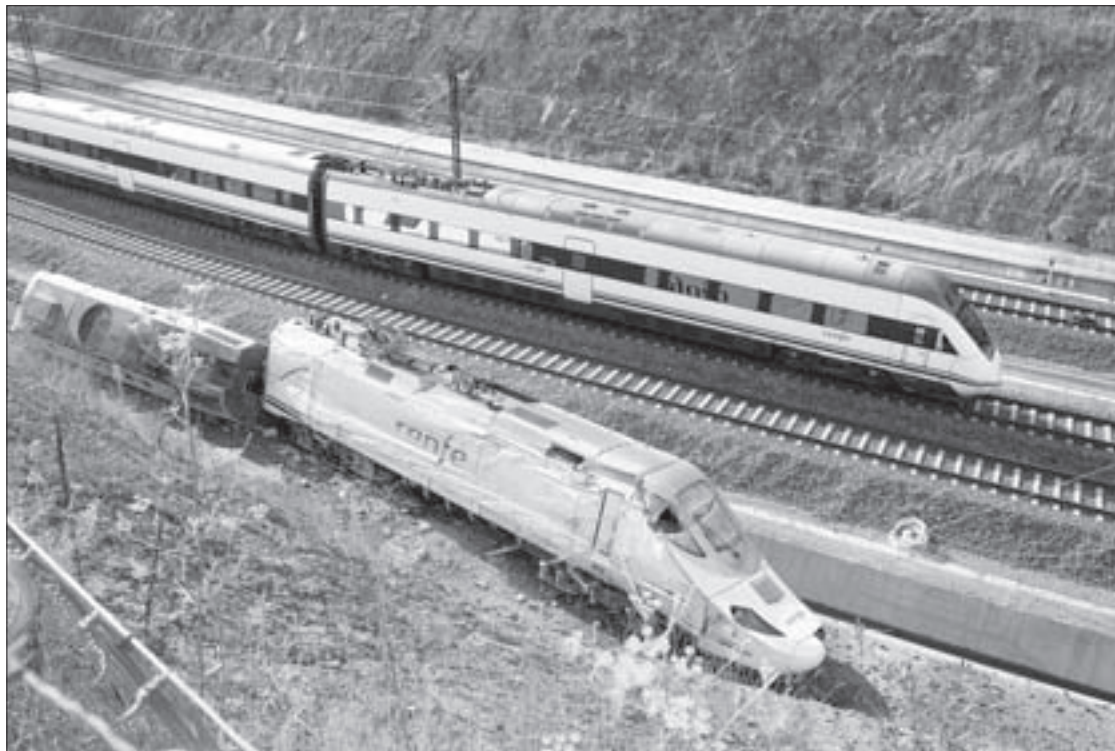
ment System was installed on most of the high-speed track leading from Madrid north to Santiago de Compostela — but the cutting-edge coverage stops just 5 kilometers (3 miles) south of where the crash occurred, placing a greater burden on the driver to take charge.

Adif spokeswoman Maria Carmen Palao said the driver from that point on had sole control of brakes and when to use them. She said even European Rail Traffic Management technology might not have been powerful enough to stop a speeding train in time.

"Regardless of the system in place, the drivers know the speed limits. If these are respected, an accident should not take place," she said. "Whatever speed the train was traveling at, the driver knows beforehand what lies ahead. ... There's no sudden change in which a driver finds out by surprise that he has to change speed."

Gonzalo Ferre, Adif's president, said the driver should have started slowing the train 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) before the dangerous bend, which comes immediately after the trains exit a tunnel.

He said signs clearly marked this point when the driver must begin to slow "because as soon as he exits the tunnel he needs to be traveling at 80 kilometers per hour." □



A passenger train speeds past the wreckage of a crashed train in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, Friday July 26, 2013. Two days after Spain suffered its deadliest rail disaster in decades - which killed 80 people and maimed scores of others - one question surpassed all others: Why was the train moving so fast? Investigators opened a probe Thursday into possible failings by the 52-year-old driver and the train's internal speed-regulation systems. (AP Photo/Lalo R. Villar)

est train crash in decades have only begun, but already a key question has been answered: Experts said Friday that the driver, not a computer, was responsible for applying the brakes because no "fail-safe" system has been installed on the dangerous stretch of bending track.

The question of whether the brakes failed — or were never used — in the approach to Santiago de Compostela may remain

had arrested 52-year-old Francisco Jose Garzon Amo on suspicion of reckless driving because the train hit the turn Wednesday traveling far faster than its posted 80 kph (50 mph) limit. The train's eight carriages packed with 218 passengers tumbled off the tracks into a concrete wall, and diesel fuel powering the engine sent flames coursing through some cabins.

As the first funeral ceremo-

the crash.

They lowered the death toll from 80 after determining that some severed body parts had wrongly been attributed to different victims. They said five of the dead came from Algeria, the Dominican Republic, Italy, Mexico and the United States.

Adif, Spain's railway agency, confirmed that a high-tech automatic braking program called the European Rail Traffic Manage-

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Tunisia links brutal assassination to al-Qaida cell

CARLOTTA GALL
RICK GLADSTONE

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TUNIS, Tunisia - The government Friday blamed a violent Islamist extremist cell linked to al-Qaida for the killing of a top Tunisian political opposition leader and identified the chief suspect, a Parisian-born jihadist, as the person who had killed an opposition figure in February, saying he used the same automatic pistol in both assassinations. The assertions, made by Interior Minister Lotfi Ben Jeddou, came as outrage simmered over the killing of the opposition leader, Mohammed Brahmi, an outspoken liberal politician, outside his home Thursday, witnessed by his wife and children. The public prosecutor's office said an autopsy showed that Brahmi, 58, had been hit with 14 bullets from a 9-millimeter weapon, six in his upper body and the others in his left leg. The assassination of Brahmi, an outspoken critic of Ennahda, the moderate

Islamist party in power, has plunged Tunisia into a new political crisis and revealed a deepening split between Tunisians who want a pluralistic democracy and hard-line Islamists who reject such a system. Many Ennahda opponents say the party has created an atmosphere of tolerance for Islamist extremists that has given them license to carry out assassinations and intimidation of political figures who disagree with them. Crowds of anti-Ennahda demonstrators protested late Thursday and into early Friday in Tunis, the capital, and other cities, and the police used tear gas to disperse some of the gatherings. The nation's leading trade union protested the assassination Friday by calling a general strike. Many banks and shops were closed, and the national airline, Tunisair, canceled all flights. Worried about a polarization in Tunisia, the birthplace of the Arab Spring movement more

than two years ago, the government declared a national day of mourning

of Brahmi and the other opposition figure, Chokri Belaid, who was assassinated

weapon. "The same 9-millimeter automatic weapon that killed Belaid also killed



Anti-government protesters demonstrate after the assassination of Mohammed Brahmi, a liberal politician, in front of the National Constituent Assembly during a protest in Tunis, Tunisia, July 26, 2013. The government on Friday blamed a violent Islamist extremist cell linked to Al Qaeda for the killing of the top Tunisian political opposition leader and identified the chief suspect, a Parisian-born jihadist, as the same person who had killed an opposition figure in February.

(Gianni Cipriano/The New York Times)

Friday and promised to find and prosecute those responsible for the deaths

sinated outside his home five months ago.

Ben Jeddou told reporters at a news conference that the gunman in both assassinations was Boubakr Hakim, a jihadist and weapons smuggler who was born in France and had already been implicated in Belaid's death. The interior minister based the assertion partly on ballistics tests on the bullets recovered from the bodies of Brahmi and Belaid, showing that they originated from one

Brahmi," Ben Jeddou said. Tunisian officials said four of Hakim's associates, members of what they called a 14-person jihadist cell linked to al-Qaida, had already been detained. But Hakim, who is almost 30, is on the run, the officials said. The police were close to apprehending him in the days before Thursday's assassination and raided his aunt's home, finding a cache of weapons and ammunition, but Hakim escaped. □



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Morsi's friends and foes stage mass rallies across Egypt

Continued from Front

At the same time, Morsi's Islamist supporters marched along dozens of planned routes. At least one person was killed in the city of Alexandria, state media reported, and there were widespread fears of more confrontations and violence after a week of scattered clashes that left more than a dozen people dead.

Egypt's military rulers have come under intensifying international pressure to release Morsi, who has been held incommunicado by the military since he was removed from power.

Instead, an investigating judge ordered him imprisoned for 15 days on formal charges, according to a report Friday on the website of the flagship state newspaper, Al Ahram. The charges relate to Morsi's escape in 2011 from the Wadi Natroun prison, where he was held for two days by the government of President Hosni Mubarak during the uprising against Mubarak's rule.

The judge, Hassan Samir, said Morsi conspired with Hamas - the Palestinian militant group that governs the Gaza Strip and is allied with Morsi's movement, the Muslim Brotherhood - to escape from the prison. The report said Morsi and Hamas carried out "aggressive acts in the country," attacked police establishments and killed and kidnapped police officers and soldiers.

After his escape, Morsi said in a television interview that he was among 30 members of the Muslim Brotherhood who were broken out of the prison by men they did not know.

During Morsi's year as president, his opponents had repeatedly accused him of conspiring with Hamas, an offshoot of the Brotherhood. The Wadi Natroun case never gained any traction until Morsi was toppled and prosecutors began an aggressive investigation.

In a statement, Salah al-Bardawil, a spokesman for Hamas, denounced the charges and challenged Egyptian prosecutors to present evidence that the group had any involvement with the prison breaks.

"This is an implication of Hamas into a dishonorable political battle," he said. Gehad el-Haddad, a spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, said Friday that the charges amounted to a repudiation of the revolt that toppled Mubarak and "might increase the number of angry people on the ground." "It will only help strengthen the realization that the Mubarak state is back," he said.

In Tahrir Square, a stronghold for Morsi's opponents for weeks now, many in the crowd seemed heartened by news of the criminal charges. "Morsi is nothing but a criminal, and the Egyptian people will be victorious," said Ibrahim Abdelrahman, 60, as he waved an Egyptian flag. "The people, the army, the police - we are all one hand." On the website of the flagship state newspaper, Al Ahram. The charges relate to Morsi's escape in 2011 from the Wadi Natroun prison, where he was held for two days by the government of President Hosni Mubarak during the uprising against Mubarak's rule. □



A man flashes victory signs at an Egyptian military helicopter as it flies over the presidential palace in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, July 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)



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Cuba marks 60th anniversary of revolution's start

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba celebrated the 60th anniversary of the onset of its revolution Friday, with the aging Communist leader who took part in the initial failed uprising vowing to focus the future on younger generations that have been slow to come to power.

Wearing an olive-green military uniform and a broad-brimmed hat against the sun, President Raul Castro spoke to a crowd of thousands outside a military barracks still visibly pock-marked with bullet holes from the 1953 assault that is considered the beginning of the rebellion.

Castro was just 22 when he followed his older brother Fidel's lead in a seemingly suicidal attack on the Moncada barracks in the eastern city of Santiago, along with more than 100 other mostly youthful rebels opposed to strongman Fulgencio Batista.

"The years have passed, but this continues to be a revolution of young people, as we were on July 26, 1953," Castro said.

The Moncada raid was a disaster for the rebels, and many of them were tortured and killed. But it helped make Fidel Castro the focus of opposition to Batista, whom he overthrew six years later after surviving prison and exile, transforming him into a hero for revolutionaries around the globe.

Yet the youthful insurgents of 1953 and 1959, many of them now in their 80s, still hold key positions of power in Cuba.

While Raul Castro has led a series of economic and po-

litical reforms, young leaders are just now beginning to emerge.

Earlier this year, 53-year-old Miguel Diaz-Canel was named vice president and became the first person not of the revolutionary generation to hold the No. 2 spot.

A near-fatal intestinal illness forced him from office seven years ago, and he rarely appears in public these days.

In speeches, allied leaders recalled Moncada as an act that inspired rebellion, both armed and political,

who joined an armed leftist guerrilla group in his own country in the 1960s and was imprisoned for more than a decade. "It seeded us with dreams, it filled us with (the spirit of Don) Quixote."

The July 26 holiday is some-

Edward Snowden and his quest for asylum beyond the reach of U.S. law enforcement.

And there was no new word about the future of Castro's reforms, which have seen changes such as the legalization of home



Cuba's President Raul Castro, center, tips his hat as he sits next to Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, left, and Uruguay's President Jose Mujica, second right during an event celebrating Revolution Day in Santiago, Cuba, Friday, July 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

"The historic generation is giving way to the new saplings with tranquility and serene confidence, based on (their) demonstrated preparation and capacity for maintaining the revolution and socialism," Castro said. At Friday's ceremony, a giant banner hanging from the barracks with an image of Fidel Castro raising a triumphant fist was the only sign of the retired leader.

across the Americas in the decades that followed.

"The history of Latin America can best be understood if we mark a before and an after the assault on the Moncada barracks," said Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino.

"Fundamentally this was a revolution of dignity, of self-esteem for Latin Americans," said Uruguayan President Jose Mujica,

times used to make major announcements or address current affairs, but Castro hardly strayed from the past tense in a speech almost entirely focused on history.

He did not mention a shipment of Cuban weaponry recently seized in Panama on its way to North Korea. Nor did he address the ongoing saga of National Security Agency leaker

and car sales, relaxed restrictions on foreign travel and limited openings for independent small businesses and cooperatives.

One of the Cuban government's most outspoken critics, dissident blogger Yoani Sanchez, was unimpressed. "A nation cannot be represented and led by men who have more memories than projects," Sanchez tweeted. □



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Amazonia Churrascaria, SushiSamba entertain international foodies

PALM BEACH - The Bolle family, from Venezuela, the Santos family from Boston, and the Rosa family



from Brasil have more than one thing in common. First there's their family vacation on Aruba, and second comes their total delight with the food served at Amazonia Churrascaria and SushiSamba.

The Bolles have been coming to Aruba every year in the 90s. Then their daughters moved to Europe and vacation patterns changed.

Nevertheless, they couldn't wait to return! Their current visit is the first in 10 years, but the old feeling is still there, they share, and they enjoy their timeshare family at the Tropicana Resort. The Santos family, staying at Divi Resort is here for the first time, nonetheless, since they are originally from Espirito Brasil, they adore the Aruba's carefree atmosphere, spirit & ambiance and especially the food at Amazonia Churrascaria and SushiSamba.

The Rosa Family, staying for ten days at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa,



seconds that thought, already planning its return trip to the island and the restaurant. □

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for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Arindam and Sangeeta Dutta, and their children Nolin and Jazmin. The Dutta family is from North Caldwell, New

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APNewsBreak: Gay tested positive at US nationals

EDDIE PELLIS
PAT GRAHAM

AP Sports Writers

Sprinter Tyson Gay failed more than one drug test this year, recording one of his positives at the U.S. championships in June, where he won the 100 and 200 meters, The Associated Press learned on Friday.

Earlier this month, Gay revealed he had tested positive in an out-of-competition test he took May 16.

Three people familiar with the case told the AP that Gay had multiple positives this year. One of those people said one positive came at nationals and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency has notified him of that result.

The people did not want their names used because the doping case against Gay is ongoing and the details have not been made public.

Gay's representatives did not immediately respond to attempts by the AP to reach them.

Gay has already surrendered his spot at next month's world championships. If a positive test from nationals is confirmed by his "B" sample, those results would be vacated,



In this June 23, 2013, file photo, Tyson Gay runs to the finish line to win the senior men's 200-meter dash final at the U.S. Championships athletics meet in Des Moines, Iowa.

Associated Press

though it's likely they would be anyway because of his May 16 positive.

A first-time offense for doping usually brings with it a two-year ban, though ath-

letes who cooperate with USADA sometimes get reduced penalties.

One person familiar with the case told AP the multiple positives over a short period of time are a sign of an athlete who wasn't trying to hide anything, but simply didn't know he was taking a banned drug.

When he admitted to the earlier positive, Gay fought back tears during a phone interview.

"I don't have a sabotage story. I don't have any lies. I don't have anything to say to make this seem like it was a mistake or it was on USADA's hands, someone playing games," he said. "I don't have any of those stories. I basically put my trust in someone and I was let down."

Since news of his positive, media reports have linked Gay to Clayton Gibson, an anti-aging doctor based in Atlanta. In an email sent to AP, Gibson would not confirm Gay was among his patients.

Gay has been the most-watched U.S. male sprinter for the past several years and has long sold himself as a clean athlete.

The 30-year-old, who won the world championship

in the 100, 200 and 4x100 relay in 2007, took part in USADA's "My Victory" program — in which athletes volunteer for enhanced testing to prove they're clean — and his results never raised red flags.

Until, that is, the out-of-competition test in May. Results came back positive for a banned substance, the identity of which he has not been revealed.

The latest news adds to a slew of negative headlines for track. Asafa Powell, the former 100-meter world record holder, has also tested positive, as has his Jamaican teammate, Sherone Simpson, a three-time Olympic medalist.

Finally feeling healthy after years of nagging injuries, Gay was among those expected to push Usain Bolt at worlds next month, but instead of racing in Moscow, he'll be resolving his doping case.

Asked on Thursday about the series of doping cases, Bolt said, "definitely, it's going to set us back a little bit."

He insisted he was clean.

"So I'm just going to continue running, using my talent and just trying to improve the sport," he said. □

Hunter Mahan leads Canadian Open

OAKVILLE, Ontario (AP) — Hunter Mahan birdied the final three holes Friday for an 8-under 64 and a two-stroke lead after the second round of the Canadian Open.

Coming off a ninth-place tie last week in the British Open, the five-time PGA Tour winner had eight birdies in his bogey-free round at Glen Abbey to reach 13-under 131.

John Merrick was second after a 62. He tied the course record set by Leonard Thompson in 1981 and matched by Andy Bean in 1983 and Greg Norman in 1986.

Bubba Watson was 9 under after a 67. Aaron Baddeley and Patrick Reed shot 68 to reach 8 under. □



Hunter Mahan is silhouetted as he checks his putting line on the 18th hole during the second round of the Canadian Open golf tournament at Glen Abbey in Oakville, Ontario, on Friday, July 26, 2013.

Associated Press

Bolt recovers to win 100 at Diamond meet in London

DANIELLA MATAR
Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — Usain Bolt returned to the site of his last Olympic triumph, winning the 100 meters at the Anniversary Games on Friday in his best time this season after recovering from a slow start. The world's fastest man failed to leave the blocks promptly but powered through the field at the Diamond League meet. He finished in 9.85 seconds at the stadium where he won three gold medals at last year's London Games. Bolt, who holds the world record in the 100 and 200, is looking to do even better at the athletics world championships in Moscow next month. "It (the start) was horrifying for me," he said. "I think it is just race rust and I just need

to get a few races in. The rounds in the world championships will help that and get my legs freer and a bit lighter. Hopefully the coach will figure out what I need to do to get me more explosive out of the blocks, I guess. "For the first time, I think, in a long while I was slightly nervous. Initially I was excited to come out because I knew it was going to be a big crowd. But when I got out there and I saw that it was ram-packed and the energy was still like the Olympics, it was just wonderful, so I was slightly nervous but I loved the energy of the crowd. It was beautiful and I love competing here." Michael Rodgers was second in 9.98. Nesta Carter of Jamaica took third, 0.01 behind the American. Kim

Collins of Saint Kitts and Nevis got off to a fantastic start but finished fourth. Bolt did a lap of honor before the meet started and was driven round the track on a contraption resembling a rocket on wheels. With athletics reeling from a slew of doping headlines involving stars such as Tyson Gay and Asafa Powell, Bolt wants the focus to return to a happier narrative. "I try to assist the sport to do great things and to show the sport in a good light, and that is what I'm here for," the Jamaican said. "You guys are here to tell people that Usain Bolt is needed for the sport or whatever, but I am just here to do my best and to prove to the world that it is possible to run clean and train hard and be focused." The standout performance



Jamaica's Usain Bolt, second right, wins the men's 100m race during the Diamond League athletics meet at The Stadium in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London, Friday, July 26, 2013. The athletics meet marks the anniversary of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Associated Press

of the night was by high jumper Bohdan Bondarenko, who threatened the 20-year world record set by Javier Sotomayor of Cuba. Despite failing at his only attempt to clear 2.43 meters, Bondarenko asked for the bar to be raised to 2.47 as he took aim at Sotomayor's mark of 2.45. The Ukrainian failed twice

but still won the competition with a leap of 2.38. Erik Kynard jumped 2.36 to finish second, with Mutaz Essa Barshim next at 2.24. In the 200, Warren Weir of Jamaica, who won bronze a year ago, edged compatriot Jason Young by 0.1 to win in 19.89. Wallace Spearmon of the United States was third in 20.18. □

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AL Capsules

Kuroda, Rivera pitch Yankees to 2-0 win at Texas

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Hiroki Kuroda pitched seven scoreless innings, Mariano Rivera got gifts before posting another save and the New York Yankees beat Texas 2-0 on Thursday to split the four-game series. After David Robertson worked a 1-2-3 eighth, Rivera pitched the ninth for his 33rd save this season, extending his career record to 641.

The Yankees took the lead for good when Brent Lillibridge's RBI double in the sixth made it 1-0 off Derek Holland (8-6).

Kuroda (10-6) scattered six hits, striking out three and walking one. He is 3-0 with a 0.69 ERA in four July starts. The Rangers honored the retiring Rivera in a ceremony before his last regular-season game in Texas, presenting him with a pair



New York Yankees starting pitcher Hiroki Kuroda, of Japan, throws in the first inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers in Arlington, Texas, Thursday, July 25, 2013.

Associated Press

of cowboy boots inscribed with the Yankees logo, his name and No. 42. He was also given a cowboy hat and a \$5,000 donation was made to the Mariano Rivera Foundation that helps needy children.

BLUE JAYS 4, ASTROS 0

TORONTO (AP) — Mark

Buehrle pitched a two-hitter and the Toronto Blue Jays ended a season-worst seven-game losing streak, beating Houston.

The last-place Blue Jays had been 0-6 since the All-Star break and had dropped 14 of 18 overall.

The Astros have won just

once since July 13 and have the worst record in baseball at 34-67. They've lost 18 of 22.

Buehrle (6-7) struck out a season-high nine — his highest strikeout total since he fanned a career-high 12 against Seattle in April 2005 — and walked two in his first complete game of the season.

Buehrle pitched his ninth career shutout, and first since throwing a perfect game against Tampa Bay in 2009.

Erik Bedard (3-8) lost his fifth straight start.

WHITE SOX 7, TIGERS 4

CHICAGO (AP) — Jake Peavy pitched into the eighth inning and the Chicago White Sox beat Justin Verlander and Detroit as the Tigers again played minus Miguel Cabrera.

Cabrera missed his third straight game because of

an injured left hip flexor. The AL MVP left in the middle of Monday's game.

Torii Hunter homered for the third time in the series. But the Tigers outfielder exited in the eighth and is day to day with a sore left Achilles. Peavy (8-4), the subject of trade speculation as the July 31 deadline approaches, was replaced by Matt Lindstrom after allowing Brayan Pena homered to start the eighth.

Addison Reed allowed the tying run to get to the plate in the ninth but struck out Pena to pick up his 26th save in 30 tries.

Verlander (10-8) gave up seven runs and 11 hits in six innings.

ROYALS 7, ORIOLES 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jeremy Guthrie pitched six solid innings, and Billy Butler homered in Kansas City's victory over Baltimore. □

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Harper's homer in 9th lifts Nats past Pirates 9-7

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) —

Bryce Harper delivered the first game-ending homer of his career, a two-run shot in the bottom of the ninth inning Thursday that lifted Washington to a 9-7 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates and ended the Nationals' losing streak at six.

Harper drove a hanging slider over the wall just to the left of straightaway center with two outs off Bryan Morris (4-4), who earlier allowed a single to Kurt Suzuki.

Harper raised his right fist overhead as he rounded first base and was mobbed by a bouncing pack of teammates as he reached home plate.

Ian Krol (1-0) earned the win, despite being part of poor relief in the ninth that allowed the Pirates to erase a four-run deficit.

It was an eventful afternoon that included three errors by Pittsburgh infielders in the first inning and the ejections of Washington manager Davey John-

son and Pirates manager Clint Hurdle.

METS 7, BRAVES 4

NEW YORK (AP) — John Buck drove in three runs and Zack Wheeler beat Atlanta for the second time in seven major league starts as the New York Mets split a four-game series.

Daniel Murphy and Marlon Byrd three hits apiece for the Mets. But the news wasn't all good for New York: Eric Young Jr., a spark in the leadoff spot since arriving last month, was pulled with pain in his right knee.

Wheeler (4-1) squandered a three-run lead by giving up homers to Dan Uggla and Freddie Freeman. But the prized rookie allowed only four hits in six innings after throwing 31 pitches in the first.

Kameron Loe (0-1) lost in relief.

CARDINALS 3, PHILLIES 1

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Lance Lynn allowed one run in seven innings and St. Louis scored three times in the third in a win over Philadel-



Washington Nationals' Bryce Harper celebrates his game winning two-run home run as he rounds the bases in the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates at Nationals Park on Thursday, July 25, 2013, in Washington.

Associated Press

phia.

Matt Carpenter, Jon Jay and Matt Adams drove in runs for the Cardinals, who have won seven of nine.

Philadelphia has lost five in a row, tying a season high. The Phillies also dropped five straight from June 7-12.

St. Louis has the most wins in the majors at 62 and is a season-high 25 games over .500.

Lynn (12-5) had dropped four of his previous five decisions and was 3-4 with a 6.32 ERA in his past eight starts. Edward Mujica earned his 30th save in 32 opportunities. He struck out two and is tied with Pittsburgh's Jason Grilli for the most saves in the NL.

St. Louis scored three times on four hits off Philadelphia starter Kyle Kendrick (9-7) in the third.

MARLINS 5, ROCKIES 3

DENVER (AP) — Rob Brantly scored on a wild pitch to break up a scoreless game in the eighth inning, Donovan Solano homered in a four-run ninth, and the Miami Marlins waited out a 93-minute rain delay to beat Colorado.

The Rockies, who dropped three of four to the Marlins, lost star Carlos Gonzalez after the third inning when he aggravated a sprain of the

middle finger on his right hand. He is day to day.

Reliever Adam Ottavino (0-2) struck out the first two batters he faced in the eighth before Brantly singled. Greg Dobbs, batting for reliever Dan Jennings (1-1) singled and Ottavino threw a wild pitch in the dirt.

Steve Cishek got his 20th save in 22 chances.

PADRES 10, BREWERS 8

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Carlos Quentin and Jesus Guzman homered and the San Diego Padres got 16 hits on their way to beating Milwaukee.

Will Venable added two doubles for San Diego and made a key catch in center field.

Edinson Volquez (8-8) worked into the sixth inning. Huston Street, the Padres' seventh pitcher, closed for his 18th save in 19 tries.

Yovani Gallardo (8-9) was tagged for six runs on eight hits and three walks in 3 2-3 innings. □

Hingis to play doubles at Rogers Cup in Toronto

TORONTO (AP) — Martina Hingis has added a Toronto stop on her comeback tour.

The 32-year-old Swiss tennis star and former world No. 1 will play doubles at the Aug. 3-11 Rogers Cup. Hingis recently announced she was coming out of retirement to play doubles at an event next week in California.

She received a wild-card entry into the doubles draw

in Toronto and her partner is still to be determined.

Hingis won the 1999 and 2000 Rogers Cup singles titles, as well as doubles trophies in 1998 and 2000. She is a five-time grand slam champion in singles — three Australian Opens, one at Wimbledon and another at the U.S. Open — and has also won nine major titles in women's doubles and one in mixed doubles. □



Tennis great Martina Hingis, of Switzerland, becomes emotional as she speaks during her enshrinement into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I. Saturday, July 13, 2013.

Associated Press

Franklin eyes a Phelpsian -like workload at worlds

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) —

Missy Franklin giggled a bit when a reporter asked for her "body measures."

Then she dove right in.

She's 6-foot-1. She estimated her wingspan at around 6-4ish. She wears size 13 shoes. Say this about Missy the Missile: She's comfortable in her own skin.

That wasn't always the case, though.

The endearing star of the London Olympics, where success in the water was only enhanced by her bubbly personality on dry land, conceded Friday there were some uncomfortable moments along the way. "I'm definitely a little bit different than your average 18-year-old girl," Franklin said during a news conference with five other American stars at the world swimming championships. "It was actually a little difficult growing up and kind of being a little bit different than everyone, always being a head above all the boys. It kind of took me a while to realize how much it helps me."



US swimmer Missy Franklin swims during a training session ahead of the FINA Swimming World Championships in Barcelona, Spain, Friday, July 26, 2013.

Associated Press

With Michael Phelps in retirement, at least for now, Franklin is the leading attraction for this every-other-year championship being held at the Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona, the same arena where Phelps had his breakout performance

at the 2003 worlds. A couple of months removed from her high school graduation, Franklin will take on a Phelpsian-like workload by swimming eight events — five individual races, plus all three relays. The swimming com-

petition begins Sunday. "It's definitely a lot," she said. "But I'm very, very excited. There are some of my favorite races. I'm really looking forward to those. The expectations are just to have fun." That has never been much

of a problem for Franklin, who has drawn inevitable comparison to Phelps in the pool but carries herself much differently on deck. Phelps was always deadly serious when he walked out for a race — headphones blocking the cheers, the routine never wavering, his steely eyes better suited for a staredown in the boxing ring. He was, in a sense, the Michael Jordan or Tiger Woods of the water, greatly respected for his mammoth accomplishments but always a bit aloof and out of reach for his fans. Franklin's personality couldn't be more different. She's always smiling and waving to the crowd, almost right up to the moment the buzzer goes off to start the race. During Grand Prix meets, she'll hang around at the end of the night for up to an hour, fulfilling every request for an autograph. Around USA Swimming, they remember her being a bit cranky this one time when she was really, really tired; otherwise, she always seems to be having a good day.

But her longtime coach, Todd Schmitz, said there's a competitive side to Franklin that you must be looking for closely to see. "A lot of athletes, whether it's professional sports or whatever, they go into game mode too early and use a lot of energy before they're on the field or in the water," he said. "If you watch Missy, she doesn't get into game mode too soon. Even when she comes out for a race, she parades around and waves to everybody. But watch for it. When she goes like this," motioning as though pulling down a set of goggles, "it's just, BOOM! Then, she's just staring down the lane."

Franklin exceeded her wildest expectations in London, where she won four gold medals and a bronze. She came close to taking medals in all seven of her events, finishing fourth in the 200 free by one-hundredth of a second and fifth in the 100 free, just 0.2 off the podium. □

He Chong wins record-tying 3rd gold in springboard

JOSEPH WILSON

Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) —

He Chong won his record-tying third consecutive world title in the men's 3-meter springboard on Friday, giving China its seventh gold medal in eight diving events.

Trailing heading into the fifth and next-to-last round, He nailed an impressive dive to ultimately finish with 544.95 points. It was He's second gold this week after dominating the synchronized 3-meter springboard with Qin Kai on Tuesday. He's victories in 2009, 2011, and 2013 match American Phillip Boggs' record of three titles from 1973-78.

"I don't think records exist in diving," He said. "I had never thought about it. But

I am very happy now that I have it."

Evgeny Kuznetsov of Russia took silver with 508.00 points, his second at these worlds, while Yahel Castillo of Mexico claimed bronze with 498.30.

The 26-year-old He's latest title came a year after he was dethroned as Olympic champion in this event. He said that the adversity had made him work harder.

"It is normal there are some doubts, nobody can be on top all time," He said. "I failed and made mistakes, but I grew from those mistakes and faced the future."

The final was billed as a two-man battle between He and Qin, given their run of titles in recent years and the elimination of Olympic

gold medalist Ilia Zakharov of Russia in the semifinals.

But Qin never recovered from a poor start. A blown third dive, when the 2007 champion entered the water at an ugly angle, doomed him to a fifth-place finish.

Instead, the steadier Kuznetsov emerged as the leader. But He executed a tough forward tuck with 4 ½ somersaults to total 102.60 points and overtake the Russian.

Earlier at the Montjuic Municipal pool, Chinese duo He Zi and Wang Han topped the semifinals for the women's 3-meter springboard.

He led the 18-diver field with 370 points. Wang was next with 362.40, and Canada's Jennifer Abel was



Gold medalist He Chong from China performs during the men's 3-meter springboard final at the FINA Swimming World Championships in Barcelona, Spain, Friday, July 26, 2013.

Associated Press

third with 344.10. The final will be held on Saturday. He took gold in the women's 1-meter springboard by 0.10 points on Tuesday, the smallest margin of victory in diving world championship history. □

Review: Nexus 7 good value, even with higher price

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When it comes to technology, we've been trained to expect more for less. Devices get more powerful each year, while prices stay the same or drop. With the new Nexus 7 tablet, Google hopes we're willing to pay more for more.

The new tablet comes with a \$30 price increase over last year's model. At \$229 for the base model, it is still a bargain — and 30 percent cheaper than Apple's \$329 iPad Mini. The display is sharper and the sound is richer than the old model. There's now a rear camera for taking snapshots. The new Nexus 7 is the first device to ship with Android 4.3, which lets you create profiles to limit what your kids can do on your tablet when you're not around.

Amazon.com Inc.'s \$199 Kindle Fire HD is cheaper, but it doesn't give you full access to the growing library of Android apps for playing games, checking the weather, tracking flights, reading the news and more. The Nexus 7 does.

It's a fine complement to your smartphone if it's running Google's Android, the dominant operating system on phones these days — even as Apple commands the market for tablet computers with its full-size iPad and iPad Mini. Unless you tell it not

to, apps you use on the phone will automatically appear on the Nexus 7, so you can switch from device to device seamlessly. When you are signed in, bookmarks will also transfer over Google's Chrome Web browser, as will favorite places on Google Maps.

If you were already looking at last year's Nexus 7 model, then go ahead and pay \$30 more for the latest.

Although screen dimensions are identical, the new Nexus 7 has a higher pixel density, at 323 pixels per inch compared with 216 on the old model.

Sound is much better with speakers on the left and the right side of the tablet, held horizontally. Although they are technically back facing, the speakers are placed along a curved edge in such a way that sound seems to project outward and not away from you.

The new Nexus 7 also feels more comfortable. It's 17 percent thinner and 5 percent narrower. The old model was a tad too wide to grip comfortably.

The new Nexus ships with a camera app, something last year's model didn't really need because it had only a front-facing camera, for videoconferencing. With the new rear, 5-megapixel camera, you can take photos and video of what's in front of you.

As for the restricted profiles

that come with Android 4.3, it's a good idea, though it still has kinks. When you set up a profile for your kid, you pick which apps to enable. Don't want your kid to be surfing the Web unrestricted? Then keep the Chrome browser disabled. Don't want him or her on Facebook? Keep that app disabled, too. The app store is also disabled. If you do allow access to a particular app, though, then it's full access. There's no filtering to block porn and other questionable material, for instance.

And although the new tablet is the first to ship with Android 4.3, it's available to download on other devices, including last year's Nexus 7.

What the new tablet does offer is the promise of a longer battery life — up to 10 hours for Web surfing and nine hours for video streaming. Last year's model was rated at eight hours.

There's no question the new model is better and worth the price increase.

Choosing between the new Nexus 7 and the iPad Mini is tougher.

If you already have an iPhone, the iPad Mini will be a nice complement. You won't have to buy music, video and apps twice, for instance. You might want to wait until this fall, though, to see whether Apple comes out with a new model.

It's a tougher call if you



A video game is played on the new Nexus 7 tablet during a Google event on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

have an Android phone. By volume, the two systems have a comparable number of apps. But I've found that many larger app developers have made versions only for the iPhone and the iPad.

Android is good in that many apps designed for a phone's smaller screen are automatically adapted to take advantage of a tablet's larger screen. On the iPad, apps that aren't optimized for it are squeezed into a smaller window the size of an iPhone. Blow it up to full screen, and it looks distorted. But that's not as glaring on the Mini as it is on the full-size iPad. And having apps automatically change their layout isn't the same as designing them for the tablet from scratch, as is the case with the hundreds of thousands of apps optimized for the iPad. The Nexus 7's screen is much sharper than that on the iPad Mini, which

has the non-HD display technology of the iPad 2 from 2011 — ancient in the world of mobile gadgets. The Nexus 7 is also a tad lighter, by 6 percent.

That said, the iPad Mini has a larger screen, measuring 7.9 inches diagonally compared with 7 inches on the Nexus. And the iPad Mini has had a rear camera from the start. The iPad Mini also has Siri, a voice assistant that is feistier than Google Now on the Nexus. If you prefer Google Now for its ability to give you information you need to know without even asking, you can download it on the Mini. You can't get Siri on the Nexus.

If you do get the Nexus 7, it supports wireless charging, so you can get rid of the messy wiring. The device comes only with a standard microUSB charger to plug in, so you'll have to buy a Qi-compatible wireless charger yourself. □

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Stocks eke out tiny gains on Wall Street

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A mixed batch of earnings results gave investors little direction on Friday as traders began looking ahead to a packed schedule next week.

The stock market slumped in early trading, climbed steadily the rest of the day, then ended little changed. Volume was thin as traders prepared for a deluge of potentially market-moving events next week: a Fed-

month.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 3.22 points, less than 0.1 percent, to 15,558.83. The Nasdaq composite index edged up 7.98 points, or 0.2 percent, to 3,613.16.

It's halftime in the second-quarter earnings season, and corporate profits are shaping up better than some had feared.

Analysts forecast that earnings for companies in the S&P 500 increased 4.5 percent over the same period

better sales of salads and sandwiches helped. Starbucks jumped \$5.19, or 8 percent, to \$73.36.

The stock market hasn't ended the week with a loss since June 21, when speculation that the Federal Reserve would start easing off its support for the economy rattled financial markets.

Kleintop cautioned against reading too much into the market's moves on Friday or the weekly loss. The S&P 500 is still up 5.3 percent for the month and 18.6 per-



The New York Stock Exchange is shown, Monday, July 15, 2013 in New York. The stock market took a pause Monday after a scorching start to July.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

eral Reserve meeting, the government's monthly employment report and much more.

"Traders seem to be erring on the side of caution today," said Jeffrey Kleintop, the chief market strategist for LPL Financial.

Expedia plunged 27 percent, the worst fall in the Standard & Poor's 500 index. The online travel agency reported earnings late Thursday that badly missed analysts' expectations. Higher costs were the main culprit. Expedia lost \$17.80 to \$47.20.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index inched up 1.40 points, or 0.08 percent, to 1,691.65. The index ended the week with a tiny loss, the first this

in 2012, according to S&P Capital IQ. At the start of July, they predicted earnings would rise 2.8 percent. Nearly seven out of every 10 companies have surpassed Wall Street's profit targets.

The results aren't exactly impressive, said Sam Stovall, the chief equity strategist at S&P Capital IQ. Investors often argue that analysts set the bar for earnings so low that most companies are bound to jump over it. On average, more than six of every 10 companies beat Wall Street's targets every quarter.

Starbucks posted results late Thursday that beat analysts' estimates. Lower costs for coffee beans and

cent for the year.

"It's just one week down after four up," he said. "If the market just goes higher and higher week after week, you would see a major swoon when it runs into some disappointing news." In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note slipped to 2.56 percent from 2.57 percent late Thursday.

Long-term interest rates have swung in a wide range since early May as traders attempt to anticipate the Fed's next move. The yield on the 10-year note went as low as 1.63 percent on May 1 and as high as 2.74 percent on July 5. □

BUSINESS WEEK IN REVIEW

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The New York Times

- The People's Bank of China lifted restrictions on commercial interest rates. Lenders have been left free to set the price of credit for the first time. By removing the floor on rates, previously set at 70 percent of the central bank's benchmark interest rate, officials hope to increase competition among banks and spur lending to private companies.

- The G20 endorsed a roadmap for reforming the current patchwork of cross-border tax rules and treaties. The 15 proposals, drawn up by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a group of rich countries, should make it harder for companies to exploit the existing system's many loopholes.

- The Securities and Exchange Commission charged Steven Cohen in a probe centered on his hedge fund, S.A.C. Capital. The S.E.C. did not directly accuse Cohen of insider trading, but filed a civil suit against him for failing "reasonably to supervise" two underlings, who now await criminal trial on those charges. S.A.C. vowed to fight the charge.

- A federal appeals court upheld a 2012 verdict by a Texas jury that invalidated two patents covering some of the Internet's basic interactive features. This put an end to a protracted legal battle which pitted a clutch of big Web firms, including Amazon and Google, against the patents' owner, Eolas Technologies, which was seeking damages of at least \$600 million.

- Yahoo said that it will buy back 40 million shares, valued at \$1.2 billion, from Third Point, a hedge fund headed by Daniel Loeb. Shares in the Internet giant have almost doubled in value since the activist investor helped to boot out Scott Thompson and install Marissa Mayer as CEO a year ago. Third Point will keep a stake of less than 2 percent in Yahoo, worth around \$500 million, but Loeb and two directors he nominated will leave the board.

- Michael Dell raised his offer for the computer-maker he founded by 10 cents, to \$13.75 a share. A vote by Dell shareholders on whether to accept the buyout bid from Dell and the private-equity firm Silver Lake Partners, currently valued at \$24.4 billion, was postponed for the second time.

- Apple made a profit of \$6.9 billion in the second quarter. That was down from \$8.8 billion last year, but higher than many analysts had expected, thanks to soaring demand for iPhones. The gadget maker shipped 31.2 million smartphones in the three months to June, 5.2 million more than a year ago. Sales of its tablet computers, though, were disappointing: Only 14.6 million iPads were sold between April and June, down from 17 million last year.

- Easyjet flew 16.4 million passengers in the three months to June, up 2.6 percent from last year. The budget airline's revenue grew by 10.5 percent in the second quarter, to \$1.75 billion, as frugal consumers snapped up cheap holiday flights well in advance.

Toyota top-selling automaker despite China sales slump

YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota shrugged off China sales woes to stay the world's top selling automaker for the first half of this year, outpacing U.S. rival General Motors Co., which boasted such bragging rights for seven decades until 2008.

Toyota Motor Corp. sold 4.91 million cars and trucks around the world for the January-June period, down 1.2 percent from the previous year, according to numbers it released Friday.

GM said earlier this month it sold 4.85 million vehicles worldwide in the six months, growing almost 4 percent as it gained U.S. sales faster than Toyota. For the second quarter alone, GM had a slight edge, outselling Toyota by about 10,000 vehicles.

GM was the top-selling automaker for seven decades before losing that title to the Japanese automaker in 2008. GM retook the spot in 2011, when Toyota's plants were slowed by an earthquake and tsunami in northeastern Japan that wiped out parts suppliers.

Toyota has since recovered and was at the top again last year even as sales in China were hurt by anti-Japanese sentiment that flared over a territorial dispute, setting off boycotts and riots. The deep sales slump that started in the second half of last year has waned in the past few months and Japanese automakers might be poised to start growing again in China. Toyota stayed ahead of GM in the first half of 2013 because of solid sales in other regions. The maker of the Prius hybrid and Camry sedan also did better than expected in Japan, where the auto market has been stagnant for years. Volkswagen AG of Germany, which includes in its group Audi, Porsche and other brands, trailed Toyota and GM in the global race, selling 4.7 million vehicles during the first half of this year. □

Air France-KLM reports further losses in Q2

PARIS (AP) — Air France-KLM posted further losses in the second quarter as its medium-haul and cargo operations continued to suffer from the weak economy. The Franco-Dutch airline said Friday it lost 163 million euros (\$215 million) in the second quarter, compared with a 897-million-euro loss a year earlier, when accounts were ham-

pered by the cost of a plan to shed about 10 percent of the carrier's workforce. Air France-KLM said a planned turnaround in its medium-haul and cargo businesses "is taking longer than expected" and that "further measures" will be taken later this year, instead of in the fall as earlier scheduled. Revenue stagnated in the second quar-

ter as slightly higher passenger traffic was offset by lower revenue per passenger. The joint airline is in the midst of a three-year turnaround plan and it hopes to strengthen its position by paying down debt and reducing staff costs.

Air France-KLM is struggling to compete against low-cost carriers and has said it expects to cut about 5,000

people in its workforce of 49,000. It said the plan is on track despite "the persistently tough economic environment." The company forecast second half operating earnings would improve to around the same level seen in the first half, which would still see the airline suffering an operating loss of around 200 million euros. □

Vivendi sells Activision Blizzard stake for \$8.2B

BARBARA ORTUTAY
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Vivendi SA is selling most of its majority stake in Activision Blizzard Inc. for \$8.2 billion, giving the video game company back its independence as the French conglomerate tries to strengthen its balance sheet.

Vivendi said Friday that 429 million of its shares will be sold to Activision itself for \$5.83 billion, or \$13.60 per share. Another 172 million shares will be sold for \$2.34 billion to a consortium of investors including Activision CEO Bobby Kotick and Co-chairman Brian Kelly, who are contributing \$100 million each.

Santa Monica, Calif.-based Activision makes games such as "World of Warcraft" and the wildly popular "Call of Duty" series. Vivendi acquired a majority stake in Activision in 2008 and combined it with its games unit, which included "Warcraft" publisher Blizzard Entertainment, so Activision will walk away a bigger company. Vivendi, meanwhile, will reduce its stake in Activision to 12 percent. The French company will continue to hold 83 million Activision

shares after the sale, which is expected to close in September.

Activision's newly found independence will come ahead of an important

holders. The move will reduce the number of available shares Activision has, which will increase the value of its remaining stock.

"Five years ago, we made

coming "Destiny" from "Halo" creator Bungie that could be a "major hit" when it comes out next year, said Cowen and Co. analyst Doug Creutz.



This video game image shows a scene from "Call of Duty: Ghosts". Vivendi SA said Friday, July 26, 2013, it is selling most of its majority stake in Activision Blizzard Inc. for \$8.2 billion, giving the video game company back its independence. (AP Photo/Activision)

holiday season for video game companies. New consoles from Microsoft Corp. and Sony Corp. coming out later this year are expected to fuel video game sales starting this fall and through the holidays. Activision said in a conference call with investors Friday that this is a "tremendous" opportunity for the company and its share-

holders. "This is one of the best decisions in our company's history when we joined forces with Blizzard Entertainment," Kotick said in the call. Since then, Activision has launched new games including "Diablo III" and the kid-focused "Skylanders." After Friday's announcement, investors can shift their focus to Activision's games, including the up-

Vivendi, whose shares closed up less than 1 percent to 16.07 euros in trading in Paris, said in a statement that the sale "provides the group with greater financial flexibility and creates value for our shareholders."

Part of the cash will be used to strengthen the balance sheet and maintain its credit rating. □

Total SA's earnings slip on lower oil, gas prices

PARIS (AP) — French oil company Total SA said its core earnings slid 3 percent in the second quarter as lower crude and gas prices offset slightly higher production.

Adjusted net income slipped to 2.7 billion euros from 2.8 billion euros a year earlier. The average

price of Brent crude oil fell 5 percent in the quarter to \$102.40 per barrel. Total's oil and gas production meanwhile rose 1 percent to 2.29 million barrels a day. Total's net profit — including one-off charges and profits or losses on the value of held assets — rose 67 percent to 2.54 billion eu-

ros in the second quarter. The gain was attributed to a lower after-tax inventory effect as well as a large gain on the sale of its stake in an Italian oil field.

Revenue in the April-June period fell 4 percent to 47 billion euros from a year ago.

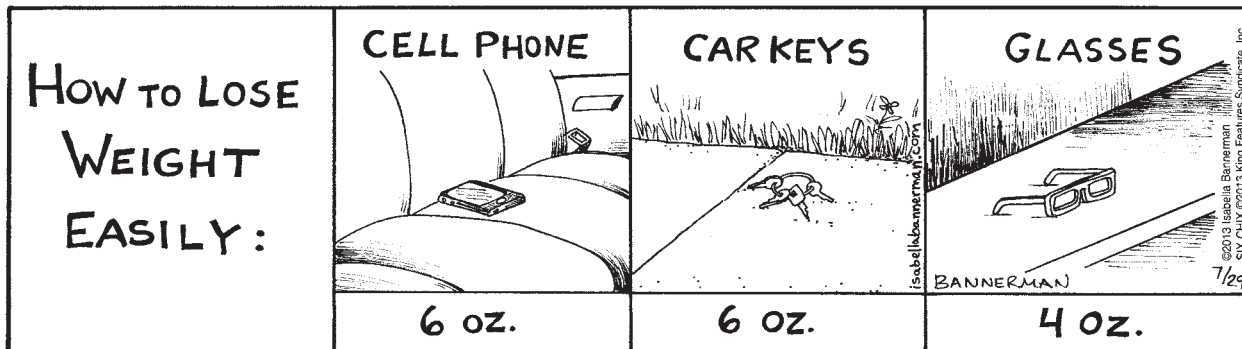
Total says it expects to see

the first oil extraction from its giant Kashagan project in Kazakhstan during the second half of this year. It is also studying the launch of two major projects before year's end: the Yamal liquefied natural gas project in Russia and the Fort Hills oil sands project in Alberta, Canada. □

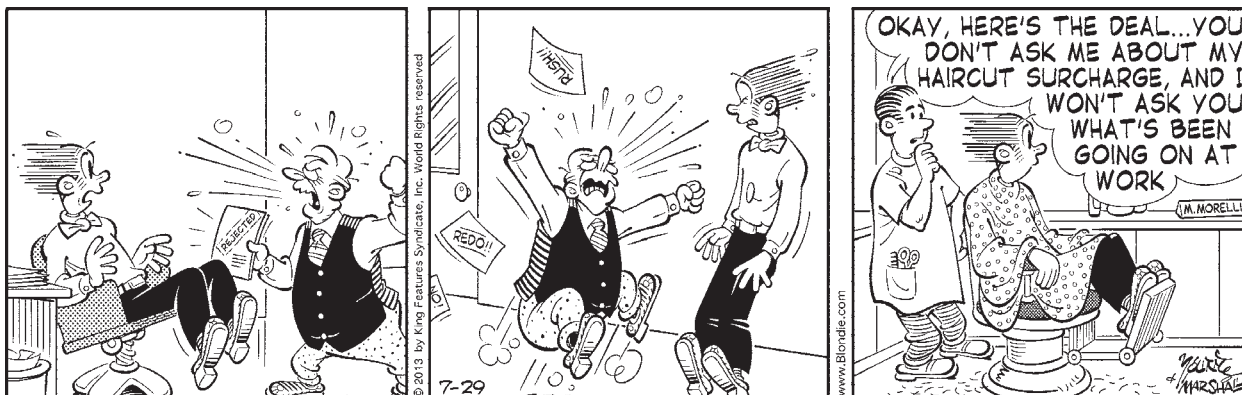
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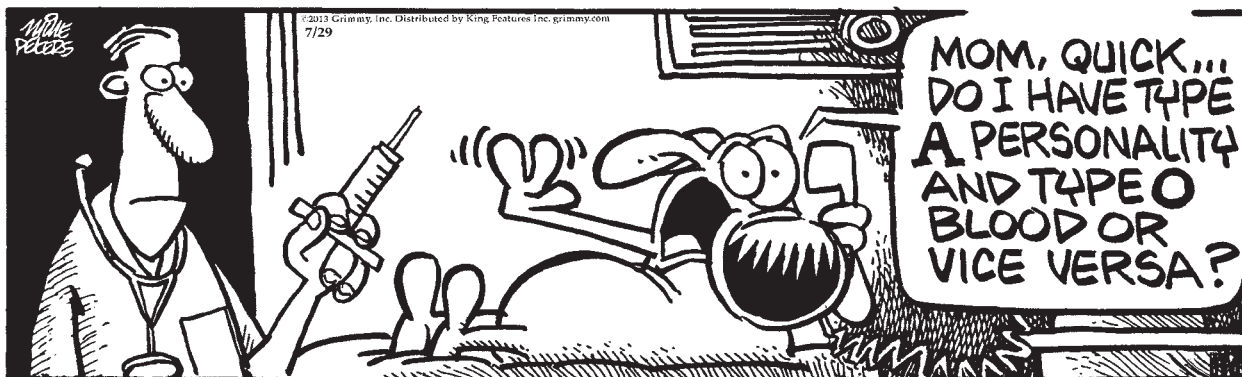
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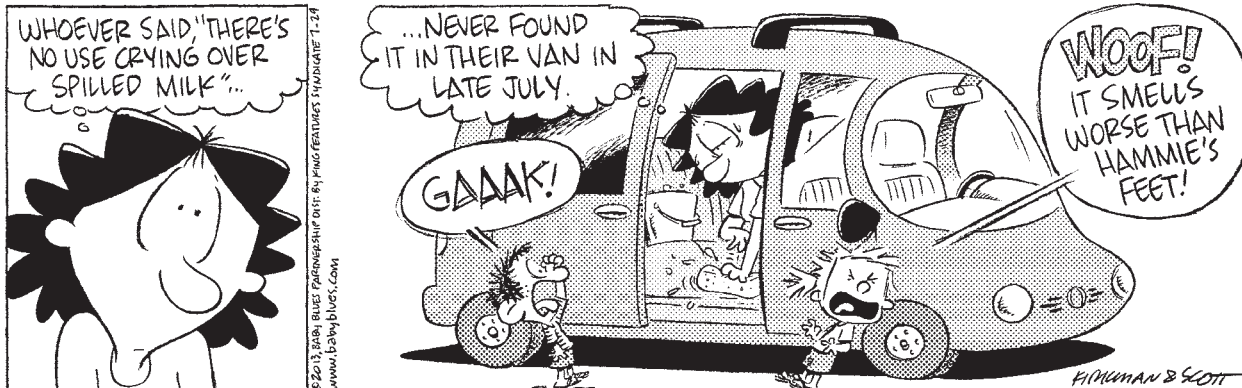
Blondie



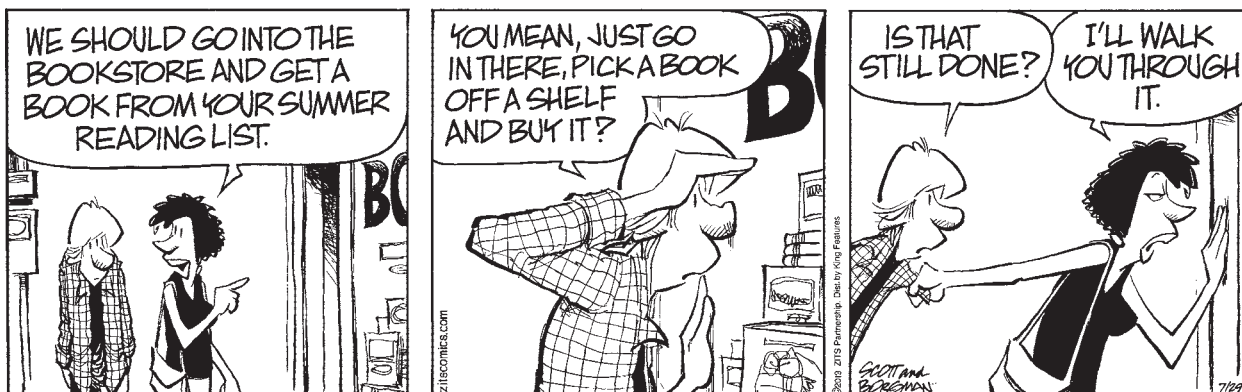
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		1				9		
	8		7		1		2	
2			4	5	9			6
	7	2				1	8	
		5		1		6		
	4	8				5	7	
9			2	3	8			1
	1		6		4		9	
		6				4		

Difficulty Level ★

7/29

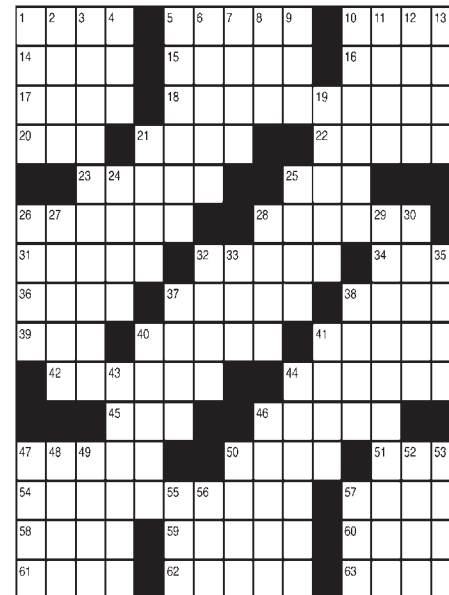
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

8	9	1	6	5	2	4	7	3
5	7	3	4	9	8	6	2	1
6	2	4	1	3	7	5	9	8
4	3	7	2	8	5	1	6	9
9	6	2	3	4	1	8	5	7
1	8	5	7	6	9	3	4	2
7	4	8	5	2	3	9	1	6
2	5	9	8	1	6	7	3	4
3	1	6	9	7	4	2	8	5

ACROSS

- Torn-off end of a ticket
- Wooden shoe
- Performances
- Window glass
- Huge lifting machine
- __ market; swap meet
- "Once __ a time..."
- Determined; unyielding
- Twelfth month: abbr.
- Deceased
- Simple floats
- Talons
- Scottish cap
- Insight; mental sharpness
- Severe experience
- India's dollar
- TV's __ Mandel
- Actress Jamie __ Curtis
- Part of the eye
- Kingdom
- Kill
- Pennsylvania or Fifth: abbr.
- Stops
- "It's a jungle out __"
- Actor __ G. Robinson
- Rules
- Stein contents
- Israelites' food from heaven
- __ in; occupy
- Empty space
- Tit for __
- Fun and games
- Uncle Ben's __
- Hawaiian island
- True or __; school test type
- Residence
- Experts
- Cornered
- Small bills



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/29/13

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

CONGA	SHAM	ROAM
ADORN	KALE	ERGO
MONEY	ITEM	CARL
PREAMBLE	BILLED	
SOIL	PERUSES	
INSERT	JERKS	
LOT	EERIE	SEEDS
LAIR	SALVO	SAIL
SHRED	CLEFT	SKI
JADES	TASTED	
SCOOTER	RENO	
ARMIES	BANKROLL	
BEEN	EVER	ERNIE
EDGE	RITE	ROCKS
ROAD	TEAR	SWEET

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7/29/13

DOWN

- Potato, for short
- Uncommon
- Part of the leg
- Actress Berry
- Take care of
- Marine animal with ivory tusks
- __ cats and dogs; poured
- Bullwinkle, e.g.
- Let fall
- Have on
- Resound
- Despicable
- Pinnacle
- Golf pegs
- Fore and __
- Paving goo
- Fraternity letter

RUTH COLUMN:

It takes brass for Weiner to press on for vote

DANIEL RUTH

© The New York Times 2013
Times Columnist

Even the father of all shrinks, Sigmund Freud, would be flummoxed by this.

What would possibly compel a thoroughly disgraced international punch line and compromised politician like Anthony Weiner to re-enter the electoral arena knowing full well he is lugging around more kinky baggage than Oscar Wilde meets Madonna?

One quick answer might be because Weiner believes he can get elected mayor of New York, despite a reputation for being the undisputed leader of the creep party. And he might be right.

Just how bizarre have the Big Apple's politics become? Sure, you have the most recent disclosures. And earlier, Weiner was forced to resign his seat in Congress after being outed as the Full Monty of cyberspace. That shame still didn't prevent him from continuing to indulge in the same X-rated iPhone behavior as he was preparing to run for mayor.

Then there is former Gov. Eliot Spitzer, who comes off as a prude compared to Weiner. Spitzer, now running for city comptroller, only had to slink out of office when he was caught up in a prostitution scandal amid disclosures he ponied up as much as \$80,000 for romps with trollops.

Largely unnoticed is another candidate in the comptroller's race, Kristin Davis, who claims to be the madam of the call girl ring that arranged Spitzer's trysts. Apparently Davis' background as a pimp isn't considered suitably salacious enough to warrant much attention in New York. At last! Some standards.

The nexus of naughtiness and public life is nothing new. The rustling sheet gallery of politicians behaving badly is long and bipartisan: Bill Clinton, John F.

Kennedy, Newt Gingrich, David Vitter, Gary Hart, Mark Sanford, John Ensign, Wilbur Mills, Mark Foley, Gary Condit, Wayne Hays, etc. into infinity.

So it is probably a fair point that a politician's private behavior should not necessarily be a disqualifying factor in deciding whether a philanderer can perform his or her elected duties. We need only look at Franklin Roosevelt, one of the nation's greatest presidents, who also had a long history of marital infidelity. Running for any office, but especially for the presidency, or governor, or certainly mayor of New York, is an exercise in unrestrained narcissism. Weiner has taken that hubris to a level that would embarrass any self-respecting porn star.

It is one thing for a public official to seek redemption from the voters for succumbing to a temptation of the flesh with another consenting adult. Isn't it quite another stretch of forgiveness for a candidate who succumbed to the temptation of the flash by exposing himself to strangers over the Internet?

Though Weiner wants to change the topic, elections are about measuring a candidate's character, maturity and judgment. Weiner is asking New York-

ers to elect a man who sent lewd pictures of himself into cyberspace, then did it again even after the licentious conduct cost him his congressional seat and his reputation.

So what did Weiner do? He changed his name, using the online nom de poltroon "Carlos Danger." This isn't a mayoral campaign. It's a Firesign Theatre routine gone horribly awry.

What husband would subject his wife to the mortification of his being revealed as a serial online streaker and then perform a sequel? By all accounts Huma Abedin is bright, attractive, elegant and painfully patient. She has to be feeling that she married a chap in whose hands an iPad is a weapon of mass degradation.

Perhaps the ultimate ques-

tion is not if Weiner could be trusted as the mayor of New York, but what parent would trust their daughter to Skype with a candidate who has a compulsion to publicly pursue his inner Michelangelo's David?

There's been some conjecture the Weiner for Mayor campaign is, for all practical purposes, a perverse form of therapy for a once promising public figure who fell so very far from grace, hoisted on his own Twitter feed.

Maybe so. But the hustings are the last place a deeply flawed candidate should expect to find much redemption, especially when female voters are likely to recoil in horror every time Weiner attempts to press some flesh.

And that is why Carlos Danger's campaign for mayor is more likely to be remembered as "the Last Guffaw." □



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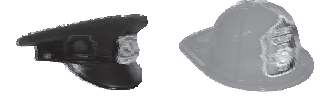
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Team examining Gulf shipwreck finds 2 other wrecks

MICHAEL GRACZYK

Associated Press

GALVESTON, Texas (AP)

— Marine archaeologists made a thrilling discovery this week while examining a well-preserved shipwreck deep in the Gulf of Mexico — two other sunken vessels that likely went down with it during an early 19th century storm.

Much isn't known about the ships, including the flag or flags they sailed under and the year they sank about 170 miles (273 kilometers) southeast of Galveston. They came to rest 4,360 feet (1,300 meters), or nearly three-quarters of a mile, below the surface, making them the deepest Gulf or North American shipwrecks to have been systematically investigated by archaeologists, the researchers said. "What you're going to see and hear I hope will blow your mind. Because it has ours," lead investigator Fritz Hanselmann told reporters at a Thursday news conference in which the team revealed its initial findings.

"We went out with a lot of questions and we returned with even more. The big question we're all asking is: What is the shipwreck? And the answer is we still don't know," said Hanselmann, a researcher from Texas State University in San Marcos' Meadows Center for Water and the Environment.

During eight days of exploration that ended Wednesday, the scientists used remote-controlled machines to recover more than 60 artifacts from the initial shipwreck site, including musket parts, ceramic cups and dishes, liquor bottles, clothing and even a toothbrush. The artifacts, including china from Britain, ceramics from Mexico



This photo provided by the NOAA Okeanos Explorer Program shows oxidized copper hull sheathing and possible draft marks visible on the bow of a wrecked ship in the Gulf of Mexico about 170 miles from Galveston, Texas. Associated Press

and at least one musket from Canada, will help researchers determine the ships' histories, Hanselmann said.

"Nationalities, cultures, all collide in these shipwrecks. We hope to return in the

one another.

Two of the ships were carrying similar items, and researchers believe they may have been privateers, or armed ships that governments would hire, Hanselmann said. The third vessel



This photo provided by the NOAA Okeanos Explorer Program shows an anemone living on top of a musket that lies across other muskets at the site of a shipwreck in the Gulf of Mexico about 170 miles from Galveston, Texas. Associated Press

future next year with more work," he said.

Although they weren't allowed to retrieve artifacts from the two new sites under the terms of their agreement to examine the initial one, the researchers took thousands of photos and closely examined the wreckage of all three ships, which came to rest within five miles (8 kilometers) of

was loaded with hides and large bricks of tallow, suggesting that it may have been a prize seized by the privateers. The artifacts are headed for preservation work at a Texas A&M University research facility.

"For now, there's lot of conjecture, lots of hypotheses," said Jim Delgado, the director of the Maritime Heritage Program for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "We may have answered some questions, but we have a large number of new questions. But that's archaeology."

Delgado said the ships likely went down during the first two decades of the 1800s, which was a time of great upheaval in the

Gulf region and in the New World, in general.

"Empires were falling, Spain was losing its grip, France was selling what it has, Mexico becomes independent, Texas independent, Latin America becomes independent and the U.S. is beginning to make a foothold in the Gulf," he said. "So these wrecks are all tied to that, we are sure." It's likely each ship was carrying 50 to 60 men and that none of them survived. Among the wreckage were telescopes and other navigational tools that survivors likely wouldn't have left

(8-meter)-wide wooden hull.

A Shell Oil Co. survey crew notified federal Interior Department officials in 2011 that its sonar had detected something resembling a shipwreck. It also detected some other material.

"Like a medical ultrasound, interpreting can be difficult," said Jack Irion, of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. "This case is the same way. You can't tell if it's an historic shipwreck or just a pile of stuff."

A year later, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel examining seafloor habitat and naturally occurring gas seepage used a remote-controlled vehicle to briefly examine the wreck. Besides determining the ship's dimensions, the examination showed it to be undisturbed and likely from the early 19th century.

That ship has been dubbed the "Monterrey Shipwreck," adopting the name Shell had proposed for its development site.

Researchers have examined several other historically significant Gulf shipwrecks in recent years.

In 1995, after a more than decade-long hunt, Texas Historical Commission archaeologists found one of



This photo provided by the NOAA Okeanos Explorer Program shows a variety of artifacts including ceramic plates, platters, bowls plus glass liquor, wine, medicine, and food storage bottles of many shapes and colors found inside a wrecked ship's hull, in the Gulf of Mexico about 170 from Galveston, Texas. It may have sunk in the Gulf of Mexico 200 years ago. Associated Press

behind if they could have helped it, the researchers said. Delgado said the ship the team set out to examine was armed with six cannons and may have had two masts. Undersea images show the outline of a copper-clad, 84-foot (25-meter)-long by 26-foot

famed French explorer La Salle's vessels in a coastal bay between Galveston and Corpus Christi. The remains of the LaBelle, which went down in a storm in 1686, have been recovered and are undergoing an unusual freeze-drying treatment at Texas A&M. □

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Lee, Tyson team to bring boxer's stage show to TV

BETH HARRIS

Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, California

(AP) — Mike Tyson is going back to pay TV, where his fights were some of the biggest moneymakers in boxing history.

Only this time the punches he's throwing are verbal.

The former heavyweight champion is teaming with director Spike Lee to bring Tyson's one-man stage show to HBO later this year. The program was filmed on Broadway, where "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth" ran last summer.

Lee used 11 cameras to film the show that he described as part of Tyson's legacy outside the ring. Tyson gives an unvarnished recounting of his life's highs and lows, including his years in prison, biting Evander Holyfield's ear, his marriages, being a tabloid target and his drug use.

"Most human beings are not going to display the

dark parts of themselves, the demons they have, to the world," Lee told the Television Critics Association on Thursday. "When you see this he's out there on this stage naked sharing his experience, his ups and downs to the audience and it's traumatic. It's the most courageous thing I've ever seen in my life. I couldn't do it and most people couldn't do it."

Tyson found walking on stage to do a live show similar to going into the ring, with similar energy among the Broadway and fight crowds. "I can't wait to get my hands on the guy like I can't wait to get on stage. Just like in a fight, I wanted to kill everybody in the room, by my performance, of course," he said, adding the biggest difference was "I don't have to go to the hospital after I perform."

With Tyson waiting in the wings with his mic clipped on, Lee said, "We had to



Spike Lee, right, director of "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth," poses with Tyson backstage during HBO's Summer 2013 TCA panel at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Thursday, July 25, 2013, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

hold him back until he hears the bell 'cause he's ready to go."

Tyson's wife, Kiki, wrote the script for the stage show,

which toured the country earlier this year. Tyson said it reflects his life's journey from Brooklyn street urchin to happily married father.

"It's how I plan on living my life now in a productive way," he said. "This is all pretty much new to me but it's working." □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a

perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort

and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled.

For a group or private tour, call 586 0347 - 593 6177 or send them an email at aruhibacigars@gmail.com



Legal to bring back to the states



In this Monday, April 23, 2012 file photo, actor Fred Armisen attends the world premiere of "The Giant Mechanical Man" during the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

Associated Press

Fred Armisen to direct Kings of Leon live stream

NEW YORK (AP) — Fred Armisen will direct a live stream of an upcoming Kings of Leon concert for the digital series "American Express Unstaged." The Nashville, Tennessee, band's Aug. 9 concert at London's Shepherd's Bush will be webcast globally on Vevo and YouTube, a spokesman for American Express told The Associated Press.

Armisen, who left "Satur-

day Night Live" earlier this year, is also a drummer and has previously directed music videos.

It's the 13th streamed concert for "Unstaged," which pairs top music acts with notable directors. The last installment was a stream for Vampire Weekend directed by Steve Buscemi. Kings of Leon will release their sixth album, "Mechanical Bull," on Sept. 24. □



This Feb. 10, 2013 file photo shows Frank Ocean performing at the 55th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Ocean cancels Australian shows due to vocal tear

NEW YORK (AP) — Frank Ocean is canceling the rest of his Australian live shows because of a tear on his vocal cords. Live Nation posted on its Facebook page early Friday that the Grammy winner was told by doctors to rest his voice after performing in Melbourne's Festival Hall on Thursday night. Ocean's representative confirmed the ailment. Live Nation said because

of Ocean's busy calendar, the R&B singer would not be able to reschedule the Australian dates. Ticket buyers can receive refunds from the point of purchase. The 25-year-old singer was to perform Friday at Festival Hall and in Sydney on Monday and Tuesday. Ocean won two Grammy Awards this year, including best urban contemporary album for "channel, ORANGE." □

Victim of Polanski sex scandal uses photo he took



This photograph released by Atria Books shows Samantha Geimer on the cover of her memoir, "The Girl: A Life in the Shadow of Roman Polanski".

Associated Press

LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The woman who was sexually assaulted by director Roman Polanski when she was 13 has written a memoir that will feature a cover photo shot by Polanski three weeks before he drugged her and had sex with her.

Samantha Geimer's publisher says that during her 1993 lawsuit against Polanski, Geimer obtained rights to the pictures Polanski took during two photo sessions in 1977, one of which led to charges that he plied her with half a Quaalude and champagne and raped her. Polanski, a French citizen, pleaded guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse and was ordered to pay her \$500,000 and to turn over the photos. Geimer has said she is writing the book to reclaim her iden-

tity. Atria Books, an imprint of Simon and Schuster, said it will be releasing Geimer's book — "The Girl: Emerging from the Shadow of Roman Polanski" — this fall. According to Atria, Geimer will provide "insight into many dimensions of the story that have never previously been revealed."

Filmmaker Marina Zenovich interviewed Geimer for her documentary "Roman Polanski: Wanted and Desired" and for a soon-to-be-released second film, "Roman Polanski: Odd Man Out." She said she was not surprised by the announcement of the upcoming book.

"She always said she wanted to take her power back, and this is her way to do it," Zenovich said. "For a lot of years she was silent, and she's not a silent person. She has a very strong personality. "Once she found her power, it kind of freed her." Although Geimer has declined interview requests in advance of publication, she issued a statement last year when the book project was announced.

"I am more than 'Sex Victim Girl,' a tag the media pinned on me," Geimer, who long ago identified herself as Polanski's victim, said in the statement released through Atria.

She said years ago that she forgives Polanski.

The case has haunted both Geimer and Polanski, with the 79-year-old director living as a fugitive from justice to avoid a long prison sen-

tence. He lives in France, where he is immune from extradition.

Polanski's lawyers fought a futile battle in 2010 to prove there was misconduct in the handling of the case and argued charges should be dismissed. Geimer supported the request, saying, "Enough is enough," and that Polanski was not a danger to anyone. But prosecutors refused to dismiss charges, and Polanski chose not to return to the United States to risk prison.

Polanski, whose films include "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby," is restricted by an Interpol warrant in effect in 188 countries, but he moves freely between Switzerland and France. He was freed from Swiss house arrest in 2010 after the government refused to deport him to the United States. He had been arrested when he tried to attend a film festival in Switzerland. A lengthy court case ensued in Europe and the U.S.

Polanski's agent and his prosecutor did not return phone calls for comment.

Geimer's lawyer, Lawrence Silver, says in the book that he pursued both the photos and negatives from Polanski's photo sessions with Geimer, which took place at the home of actor Jack Nicholson while Nicholson was away.

"These photographs, important both legally and historically, would likely have never been discovered if not for the civil suit," Silver said. □

Irons jokes about father's response to nude scenes

ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, California

(AP) — Like father, like son? Max Irons, the star of the upcoming Starz series "The White Queen," jokes about his father Jeremy Irons' potential reaction to his nudity in the new show.

"Thankfully he hasn't seen it yet, but if he did I'd refer him to his back catalog," the 27-year-old English actor

said to laughs Friday at the Television Critics Association summer press tour.

Max Irons stars as Edward IV during England's War of the Roses in "The White Queen," which premieres Aug. 10. His 64-year-old father has had explicit sex scenes in 1988's "Dead Ringers," 1992's "Damage" and most recently in the Showtime series "The Borgias." Max Irons spoke about the upcoming

10-episode series live via satellite from England alongside co-star Janet McTeer. Rebecca Ferguson, who plays commoner-turned-Queen Elizabeth Woodville, appeared in person at the event. McTeer portrays her mother in "The White Queen." The series, only airing for one season, is adapted from the best-selling books about the Cousins' War by Philippa Gregory. □

Gangsta Guilt Trip



MAUREEN DOWD

© 2013 New York Times

BOSTON - Even the loathsome Stephen Flemmi was loath to see a picture of the skull of Debbie Hussey.

"I don't want to see that," the man who murdered for a living said, turning his head away from the macabre remains of a beauty he raised from the time she was a toddler as his own daughter, then molested when she was a teenager, and then helped kill when she was 26.

Jurors stared at the skull of Debbie, who grew up calling Flemmi "Daddy." "Do you remember how many teeth you pulled out of your stepdaughter's mouth?" Whitey Bulger's tart defense lawyer, Hank Brennan, asked Flemmi, Whitey's old partner in killing, ratting and womanizing who is now the star witness against Whitey.

The 79-year-old Flemmi replied that he had been "in a semi-traumatic state" and on a "guilt trip" during the murder. Whitey nicknamed Stevie "Dr. Mengele," because extracting identifying teeth was his specialty.

The bodies have piled up in this trial, men, women and teenagers killed accidentally or vengefully in the '70s and '80s, often for the flimsiest of reasons. There is even a new body, a man who was at one point scheduled to testify against Whitey who died here last week under suspicious circumstances.

Yet, as Kevin Cullen, a Boston Globe columnist, told me, "Debbie Hussey might be the saddest case of all." Cullen co-wrote the compelling chronicle of the Winter Hill gang, "Whitey Bulger."

"I think the most interesting thing about Whitey and Stevie was their obsession with women," Cullen said. "They could never have enough of them. They kept very tangled domestic situations, with common-law wives and girlfriends on the side. Their domestic lives were more complicated than their criminal lives."

Indeed, the emotional core of this case concerns women. The federal government is wasting all this money proving what we already know, that Bulger, 83, is a misogynist and rat, because he is determined to beat back the contentions that he was an FBI informant and killed women - anathema to the Irish mobster code he supposedly lived by.

The first woman was Debbie Davis, a sexy blond girlfriend of Flemmi. Flemmi made the mistake of mentioning his FBI handler to her, but she had to pay for his slip.

The second was Debbie Hussey. At 25, Flemmi moved in with Debbie's 19-year-old mother, Marion.

They had three kids, and he raised Debbie as his own. When she was 12, she saved Flemmi's 9-year-old son from a riptide in Montauk. Flemmi started molesting Debbie in "her early teens," according to the authors of "Whitey Bulger," and, after that, she fell into using drugs and working in the Combat Zone, a red-light district. Whitey, a violent opponent of Boston bus-ing, and Stevie were furious that she had been bringing black men (described in court as "clients") to the family home for sex. Whitey told their protégé, Kevin Weeks.

"Is it hard for you to accept the fact that you strangled somebody who sat on your knee as a little girl?" Brennan asked a fuming Flemmi.

You could see the thought bubble over Flemmi's head: "Can I whack this guy now, Your Honor?" Brennan asked Flemmi about the unholy relationship with his "daughter."

"Stepdaughter," Flemmi primly corrected. He asked Brennan why he couldn't focus more on "the positive things," like when he gave her money to go away. Asked by Brennan if he understood that his incestuous relationship was wrong, Flemmi replied, "Probably. Not really. No. Because the fact of the matter was, she was a different person in my eyes" once she began her "different lifestyle."

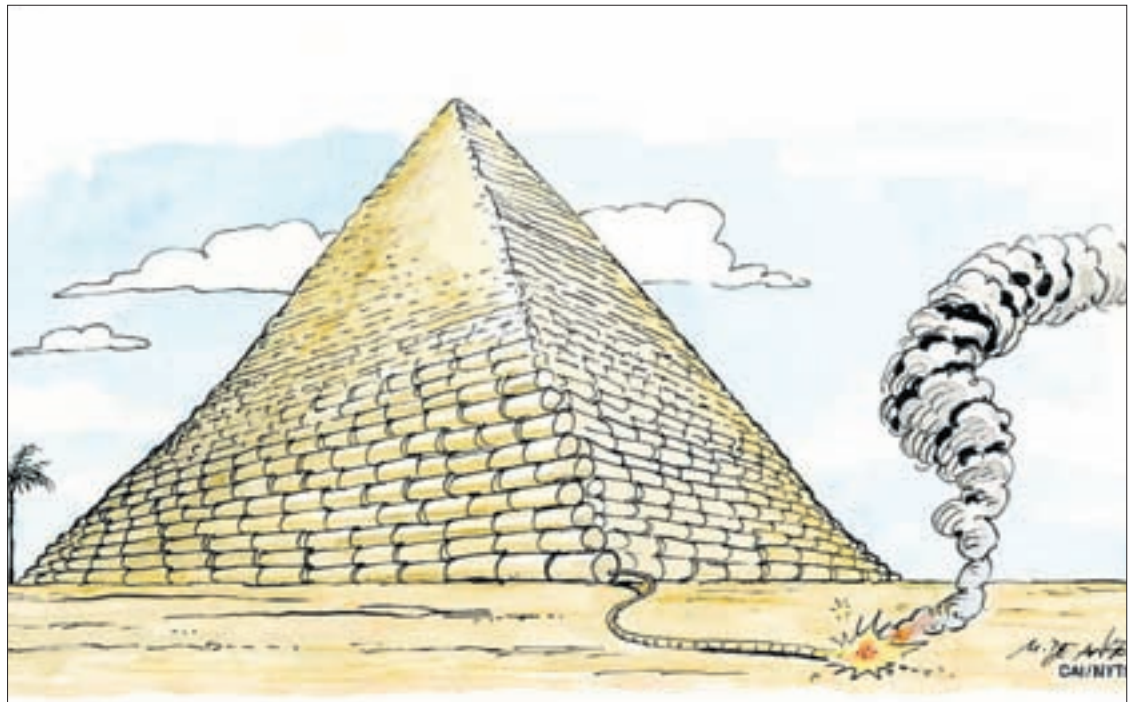
Flemmi contended there were only two instances of "consensual" oral sex once she turned 17 ("17 and a half, almost 18") but conceded it was "an indiscretion." He and Whitey prided themselves on being a cut above other wiseguys because they did not succumb to weaknesses like overdrinking and overeating - they once looked disdainfully at an FBI agent who kept refilling his glass with red wine. But Flemmi admitted on the stand that he had shown "weakness" with Hussey. Then he tried to drag in Whitey, saying righteously: "He had a young girl, 16 years old, he took to Mexico. That's a violation of the Mann Act." (The Mann Act was the least of their problems.) Nodding toward Bulger later, he said, "You want to talk about pedophilia - right over there at that table."

Like Debbie Davis, Debbie Hussey had to pay. Once more, Flemmi noted sullenly that Whitey had "coerced" him. Without irony, Flemmi declaimed, "There's never any justification for murder," adding that if Whitey had just said "four little letters p-a-s-s," he would have been "so happy."

Flemmi took Debbie Hussey out shopping at the mall and then lured her to her death in a house that Whitey dubbed "The Haunty," because of the bodies they had buried in the basement. Flemmi said Whitey choked the young woman - it didn't take long because she was "very fragile" - and dragged her down the stairs in 1985, just as he had with Debbie Davis in 1981.

"I'm not a doctor," Flemmi said, "but she looked dead to me; she felt dead to me; she was dead." He added, "Dead, period."

Nonetheless, he told Whitey to "Let her pray." She was, after all, his little girl. □



Egypt's Three Revolutions In Cairo



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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If you're looking for any silver lining in what is happening in Egypt today, I suggest you go up 30,000 feet and look down. From that distance, the events in Egypt over the past two and a half years almost make sense. Egypt has actually had three revolutions since early 2011, and when you add them all up, you can discern a message about what a majority of Egyptians are seeking.

The first revolution was the Egyptian people and the Egyptian military toppling President Hosni Mubarak and installing the former defense minister, the aging Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, as the de facto head of state. Tantawi and his colleagues proved utterly incompetent in running the nation and were replaced, via a revolutionary election, by the Muslim Brotherhood's party, led by President Mohammed Morsi. He quickly tried to consolidate power by decapitating the military and installing Brotherhood sympathizers in important positions. His autocratic, noninclusive style and failed economic leadership frightened the Egyptian center, which teamed up last month with a new generation of military officers for a third revolution to oust Morsi and the Brotherhood.

To put it all in simpler terms: Egypt's first revolution was to get rid of the dead hand, the second revolution was to get rid of the deadheads and the third revolution was to escape from the dead end.

The first revolution happened because a large number of mostly non-Islamist Egyptian

youths grew fed up with the suffocating dead hand of the Mubarak era - a hand so dead that way too many young Egyptians felt they were living in a rigged system, where they had no chance of realizing their full potential, under a leader with no vision. After some 30 years of Mubarak's rule and some \$30 billion in American aid, roughly one-third of Egyptians still could not read or write.

The generals who replaced Mubarak, though, were deadheads not up to governing - so dead that many liberal Egyptians were ready to vote for the Muslim Brotherhood's Morsi over a former Mubarak-era general in the June 2012 election. But Morsi proved more interested in consolidating the Brotherhood's grip on government rather than governing himself, and he drove Egypt into a dead end - so dead that Egyptians took to the streets on June 30 and virtually begged the military to oust Morsi.

Add it all up and there is a message from the Egyptian majority: No more dead hands; we want a government that aspires to make Egypt the vanguard of the Arab world again. No more deadheads; we want a government that is run by competent people who can restore order and jobs. And no more dead ends; we want a government that will be inclusive and respect the fact that two-thirds of Egyptians are not Islamists and, though many are pious Muslims, they don't want to live in anything close to a theocracy.

It is difficult to exaggerate how much the economy and law and order had deteriorated under Morsi. So many Egyptians were feeling insecure that there was a run on police dogs! So many tour guides were out of work that tourists were warned to avoid the Pyramids because desperate camel drivers and postcard-sellers would swarm them. A poll this week by the Egyptian Center for Public Opinion Research found that 71 percent of Egyptians were "unsympathetic with pro-Morsi

protests."

Yes, it would have been much better had Morsi been voted out of office. But what is done is done. We need to make the best of it. The right thing for President Barack Obama to be doing now is not only to ignore calls for cutting off economic aid to Egypt - on grounds that the last revolution amounted to a military coup. We should be trying to get everyone in the world to help this new Egyptian government succeed.

Not surprisingly, people are worried that Egypt's military could stay in power indefinitely. It's a danger, but I am less worried about that. The Egyptian people have been empowered. A majority of Egyptians have - three times now since 2011 - called a halt to their government's going down the wrong path.

I am worried about something else: Egyptians defining the right path and getting a majority to follow that path. That is an entirely different kind of challenge, and I am not sure Egypt can ever get to that level of consensus. But this government offers the best hope for that. It has good people in important positions, like finance and foreign affairs. It is rightly focused on a fair constitution and sustainable economic reform. Its job will be much easier if the Muslim Brotherhood can be reintegrated into politics, and its war with the military halted. But the Brotherhood also needs to accept that it messed up - badly - and that it needs to re-earn the trust of the people.

This is no time for America to be punishing Egyptians or demanding quick elections. Our job is to help the new government maximize the number of good economic decisions it makes, while steadily pressuring it to become more inclusive and making it possible for multiple political parties to form. If that happens, Egypt will have a proper foundation to hold democratic elections again. If it doesn't happen, no number of elections will save it. □

BEACHCOMBING



Scavengers Listen For Treasure On Churned Jones Beach

Manny Ortiz, a treasure hunter, scours Jones Beach with a metal detector in Wantagh, N.Y., June 26, 2013. Because of Hurricane Sandy, recent months have been particularly frustrating for the folks combing Jones Beach with metal detectors.

(Michael Kirby Smith/The New York Times)

MICHAEL SCHWIRTZ

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The cool waters off Jones Beach, N.Y., beckoned in the summer heat and a host of toned sunbathers all but demanded a furtive glance. But Manny Ortiz fixated on a seemingly unremarkable patch of sand. Homing in. Hoping. Stooped with concentration, Ortiz waved a metal detector in an ever-tightening arch, then plunged a sifter into the sand. A metallic clang rang out and he collected his prize. It could have been a diamond ring, a gold necklace or an ancient silver coin. Or not.

"Stupid penny," Ortiz said, tossing the coin back into the sand.

False alarms and deflated hopes are part of the game for the legions of treasure hunters who scour the region's beaches with metal detectors searching for valuables dropped carelessly days earlier or left behind a hundred years before. But recent months have been particularly frustrating.

"It's been dead," said Ortiz, 62, a retired truck driver. "We're not finding anything."

The reason is Hurricane Sandy. The storm's massive surge wiped clean entire beaches, stripping them of hundreds of tons

of sand along with countless troves. To rebuild, fresh sand has been brought in over the last nine months. But that, too, is bereft of booty.

Normally beachcombers welcome sizable storms, which skim away layers of sand to reveal long-buried riches. They also sweep valuables into shore that

members of the 40-year-old Atlantic Treasure Club ate watermelon slices and ice-cream sandwiches and commiserated.

Perhaps the most exotic recent find was an unopened condom packet buried in the sand, maybe evidence of the anticipation of a shore-side tryst. (The foil wrapper set off the

skin baking to deep oranges, reds and browns save for a pale patch on the arm where the cuff of the detector is affixed. The detectors, which can cost more than \$1,000, emit an electromagnetic beam and set off an audible signal when metal is found. Some can locate items up to 18 inches in the sand.

And about those treasures. Some of the scavengers on Jones Beach tend to be a bit coy about their finds, especially the more valuable items. By law, anything worth more than \$20 must be handed over to the park police, although not everyone does so.

At one point during the gathering of the Atlantic Treasure Club, a thick gold bracelet made a momentary appearance, coming with bragging rights, before being stuffed back into a black felt bag emblazoned with a skull and crossbones. "There's millions of dollars out here," said a 36-year veteran sand scrounger named Brian, a tree surgeon by day who like many would not give his full name.

The idea that someone would wear, let alone lose, a valuable piece of jewelry at the beach might seem hard to believe, but beachcombers said it happened all the time. Almost everyone had stories of

finding wedding rings and other precious heirlooms, sometimes at the desperate request of the owner.

"People don't realize not to wear their gold to the beach," said Steve Azopardi, 45, a retired New York City police officer turned treasure hunter, showing off a 14-karat-gold necklace. More often, though, the prowl for gold turns up trash like beer cans and foil wrappers, as well as more sinister refuse, like needles and syringes and even guns. Joanie Caldas, who has been on the hunt for three years and said she was "40-something," said she deserved credit for removing trash from the beach. "You might want to write down that we do a community service," she said. For those hoping for more precious discoveries, there is little to do now but watch and wait for the bejeweled summer masses to restock the sands.

Few think it will take long. "Young guys with big chains jump in the water and the chains come off," Ortiz said. "Once you lost it out there, you're never going to find it until we come along."

"See that guy there with the big gold chain," he said, pointing out a young, well-built man whose jewelry glinted in the sun. "Potential victim." □



Manny Ortiz, a treasure hunter, shows some of his past finds using a metal detector, at Jones Beach in Wantagh, N.Y., June 26, 2013.

(Michael Kirby Smith/The New York Times)

were once too far out at sea to reach.

Hurricane Sandy, though, came through like a gigantic backhoe and carried it all away.

All this has dampened the mood for the region's beachcombers, who say they are sifting their way through the worst summer hunt in memory.

At a gathering on Jones Beach this month, the

metal detector.)

"I hope he didn't get her pregnant," the finder said with a chuckle.

Others showed off old finds, including gold jewelry and silver coins dating to the Colonial period. Ortiz said he once found a copper coin emblazoned with the profile of King George III and dated 1773.

Avid hunters will spend hours on the beach, their